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CONTENTS.

Advertisements—Latest dates—Births, Marriages, and Deaths, &c.	
Arrivals and Departures of Passengers, Shipping, &c.	
LEADING ARTICLE—	
The Customs Trade Reports for 1892.—	
V. The Formosan Ports	1
SUMMARY OF NEWS	2
MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES—	
Through	9
The Franco-Siamese Trouble	10
The Royal Wedding	10
The Murder at Sungpu	11
Sheng Taotai's New Departure	11
REVIEW—	
French Mail Papers	12
OUTPORTS, &c.—	
Chiangchiu	14
Foochow	14
Hankow	15
Shensi	15
Tientsin	16
The United States	16
PEKING GAZETTE	17
MEETINGS—	
Municipal Council	19
Shanghai and the Royal Wedding	20
AMUSEMENTS—	
Cricket—S.R.C. v. S.B.C.	20
„ S.C.C. v. Kalee Past and Present	21
Shanghai Yacht Club	21
S.V.C. Inter-Company Challenge Shield	21
S.V.C., "A" Co. Monthly Cup	22
CORRESPONDENCE—	
Silver's Present Position	22
The Term Question	23
Exemplary Hongkong	24
The Last Race for the Champions	25
POETRY—	
Epithalamium	25
MISCELLANEOUS—	
The Loss of H.M.S. Victoria—Memorial Service at the Cathedral	26
St. Xavier's School	27
A Story of a Sentry Box	27
Lawn Tennis at Tientsin	27
Mount Oni and Beyond	28
The Children's Column	30
Terrific Explosion at Canton	31
The Silver Crisis in Hongkong	31
Rudyard Kipling again	32
LAW REPORTS—	
H.B.M.'s Police Court—	
R. v. Keneally	32
COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE AND WEEKLY SUMMARY—	
Market Report	34
Exchange Quotations	40
Share Quotations, &c.	40

Miscellaneous Intelligence.

LATEST MAIL DATES.

England	2	Hankow	July 3
San Francisco	17	Yokohama	„ 1
Hongkong	July 1	Nagasaki	„ 3
Tientsin	3	Foochow	„ 2

Shanghai mail advices of 26th May were received in London on the 4th July.

MARRIAGE.

On the 18th May, 1893, at the Registry Office, Northampton, HARRY CHARLES ALLEN ANDERSON, master mariner, of Mauritius and Hobart, to ELLEN, second daughter of Charles Churchill, Esq., Deddington, Oxfordshire, and the relict of the late George POWELL, The Folly, Towcester, Northamptonshire.

DEATHS.

At Marseilles, on the 1st instant, AGNES, the beloved wife of John FORD.

At 1, Astor Terrace, Shanghai, on the 6th July, 1893, PHIL. HASTINGS POTTER, late Chief Officer s.s. *Pekin*, aged 34 years.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, FRIDAY, JULY 7, 1893.

THE northern half of Formosa is certainly prospering under the Governorship of H.E. Shao Yü-lien, formerly Secretary of Legation at St. Petersburg, and afterwards Taotai at Shanghai. Mr. Morse begins his report by stating that the trade of Tamsui in 1892 was "in general . . . marked by great prosperity in all departments." The revenue collected in 1891 was the highest on record, and 1892 showed a falling-off of only some Tls. 3,000. There was indeed a little trouble on the savage border at Tokoham, where the settlement recently arrived at was not altogether acceded to by the principal party, the savages; but the settlement was only deferred, and camphor would probably soon begin to come in again from the Tokoham country. The savages in Formosa are like other people in being amiable enough if they are properly treated, but their destiny is to be gradually overwhelmed by, or absorbed in, the Chinese immigration, and this they not unnaturally, though with little hope of ultimate success, are disposed to resent.

We are reminded by the second paragraph in these reports of the very partial value of these Customs Returns. Mr. Morse notices that there was a falling-off in transit dues in 1892; and he adds the remark that this reduction "is really a gain to trade, as it was occasioned by a general lowering of inland likin, designed to catch this source of revenue." The impossibility of really gauging the trade of China comes from the existence everywhere of a native Custom house with fluctuating duties alongside the former Custom house, the former

independent of the latter, and equally independent of returns and statistics of any kind. So it happens that when exports or imports appear to increase or fall off, it may merely mean that they have been transferred from the one Custom house to the other. The treasure statistics given in the Customs returns are also of little value to writers on economics, because there is a large import and export of treasure, that does not go through the foreign Customs at all.

The comparative net value of the trade of Tamsui that passed through the foreign Customs was as under:—

	1892.	1891.
	Hk. Tls.	Hk. Tls.
Net total foreign imports	1,784,156	1,697,771
Net total native imports	560,889	501,537
Total exports of local origin	3,427,538	3,101,366
Total	5,772,583	5,300,674

The net value in 1890 was Hk. Tls. 5,523,255.

Imports, it will be seen, were well maintained, but it will be noted with some regret that Chinese and Japanese cottons seem to be gradually supplanting Manchester goods. Indian yarn is not in much demand in Tamsui, the import in 1892 having been only Pls. 594 against Pls. 780 in 1891. Kerosene oil, however, advances by leaps and bounds; only 800 cases were imported in 1882, the following being the figures for the last two years:—

	1892.	1891.
	cases.	cases.
American oil	56,808	84,542
Russian	83,797	3,900
Total	140,605	88,442

Mr. Morse looks for a great increase in consumption, should it be possible to extend to Tamsui the plan of transporting and storing oil in bulk.

Those who are specially interested in the camphor and tea trades will no doubt have before this digested Mr. Morse's report; the tea trade, we learn, was exceptionally profitable to grower, packer, and shipper alike, although the leaf is burdened with duty and likin amounting together to \$6.25 a picul. The inland transit trade flourished during the first half of the year, and was then killed off by the reduction in the likin tariff; the passes issued and surrendered were 156 and 20, against 204 and 74 respectively in 1891. It is worth noting that the railway, which,

as we mentioned the other day, is continually being extended southward, "is very popular with the people having access to it." The treasure table shows only an import of gold to the value of Tls. 514, and of silver to the value of Tls. 1,453,459, with an export of silver to the value of Tls. 104,012; but in the general export table we find included gold bars and dust to the value of Tls. 157,250.

Perhaps if H.E. Shao were to spend part of his time every year in the south of Formosa, it might become as prosperous as the north, but meanwhile Mr. Edgar's report on the trade of Tainan in 1892 is not rose-coloured. At Tainan 1892 was "a succession of typhoons and earthquakes—sandwiched the one between the other—with the resultant of poor crops and general distress," and the outlook for 1893 was an unfavourable one also. It should be noted, however, that the chief decline in the revenue was due to the diminished import of opium through the foreign Customs, and Mr. Edgar remarks that "too much stress must not be laid on a high or reduced duty collection nor should it be used barometrically for reading the state of the commercial atmosphere."

The comparative net value of the trade of Tainan was as under:—

	1892. Hk. Tls.	1891. Hk. Tls.
Net total foreign imports	1,208,907	1,293,950
Net total native imports	191,113	203,048
Total exports of local origin	1,532,291	1,634,262
Total	2,932,311	3,131,260

The net value in 1890 was Hk. Tls. 3,575,723.

The import table shows a general falling-off in cottons, with a steady business in woollens, a falling-off in metals, and a marked increase in kerosene oil. No yarn was taken in Taiwan. The export table shows an increase in camphor, lunggans, and sugar both brown and white. Although the three ports classed under Tainan supply more than half Formosa with goods, no mention is made of transit passes issued either in 1892 or 1891; but 39 passes for Pls. 4,093 of camphor were surrendered, against 25 passes for Pls. 1,767 of camphor in 1891. The treasure table shows an import of gold to the value of Tls. 3,077 and of silver to the value of Tls. 262,052, and an export of the latter metal to the value of Tls. 419,190.

Summary of News.

The French mail of 27th May arrived here on the 1st inst., by the M.M. Co.'s str. *Oxus*.

The English mail of 2nd June arrived here on the 4th inst., by the P. & O. Co.'s str. *Malwa*.

The American mail ex *City of New York*, with dates to 8th ult., arrived here on the 5th inst., by the N.Y.K. str. *Yokohama Maru*.

The American mail ex *Gaelic*, with dates to 17th ult., arrived here last night, by the M.M. Co.'s str. *Calédonien*.

A mail leaves to-morrow for Europe, by the M.M. Co.'s str. *Sydney*.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

SUPPLIED THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY
EXCLUSIVELY TO THE "NORTH-CHINA
DAILY NEWS."

ENGLAND, FRANCE, AND SIAM.

London, 29th June.

Sir Edward Grey, Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, has declined to state the government's policy with regard to Siam.

THE INDIAN CURRENCY REVOLUTION.

The action of the Indian Government with regard to silver has demoralised the Exchanges of Europe and America.

THE PROGRESS OF THE HOME RULE BILL.

London, 30th June.

Mr. Gladstone's resolution to report the Home Rule Bill by the 27th inst., was carried by a majority of thirty-two. THE IMMINENT REPEAL OF THE SHERMAN ACT.

It has been decided owing to great pressure to convoke the U.S. Congress for the 7th of August.

HOPE FOR SILVER.

The Broken Hill silver mines in Australia and all the silver mines in Colorado are closing, also numerous mines in Utah, Nevada, and Montana, and it is expected that the Chilean mines will follow, Mexico taking measures with the present silver coinage (to prevent silver coinage?).

THE SINKING OF H.M.S. VICTORIA.

London, 2nd July.

The collision between the *Camperdown* and *Victoria* was caused by the orders of Admiral Tryon, which left inadequate room to manœuvre; if the orders had been fully executed, every pair of ships would have collided. In his official report, Rear-Admiral Albert H. Markham, second in command in the Mediterranean, who had hoisted his flag on the *Camperdown* while his flagship *Trafalgar* was refitting, says that he questioned Admiral Tryon's signal because the ships were only six cables apart, and he only obeyed after Admiral Tryon had signalled "What are you waiting for?" Admiral Markham felt confidence in Admiral Tryon's ability, supposing that he intended to circle round the second division, and he then executed the order.

After the collision boats started from all the ships, but Admiral Tryon signalled to stop the boats, in the belief that the water was not gaining.

THE SINKING OF H.M.S. VICTORIA.

London, 3rd July.

A court martial on the *Victoria* disaster will be appointed at once, to sit at Malta. Admiral Tryon was on the sick list up to the morning of the disaster when he was suffering in health and spirits.

A NEW RUSSIAN K.G.

The Queen has conferred the Order of the Garter on the Czarewitch at Windsor.

THE OPENING OF THE REICHSTAG.

London, 4th July.

The Emperor William on opening the new Reichstag said that the political situation was unchanged, and foreign relations were friendly and untroubled, although Germany's military strength compares still more unfavourably than last year with that of her neighbours. He announced a new Army Bill and urged its speedy passing, and appealed to the Deputies to preserve Germany's glorious acquisitions.

RIOTING IN PARIS.

There have been serious riots in Paris. The students have had desperate conflicts with the police, and many have been wounded. The Revolutionary element has now joined the students. The Republican Guard have repeatedly charged the rioters, who overturned carriages and tramcars, and barricaded the Boulevards.

THE RIOTING IN PARIS.

London, 5th July.

Paris is still excited and the riots continue, but are confined now to the Socialists, several of whom have been killed by the military.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."]

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

MURDER OF TWO SWEDISH MISSIONARIES BY A CHINESE MOB.

Hankow, 3rd July, 1893.

The Revs. O. F. Wickholm and A. D. Johansson, Swedish missionaries, were murdered on Saturday at Sungpu, about 100 miles north-east of Hankow, in an anti-foreign riot.

[Mr. Carl Bock, Consul-General for Sweden and Norway, has courteously sent us a copy of the telegram received by him from his vice-Consul at Hankow, Mr. Joh. Thyen, conveying the same news, and adding that the bodies had not up to that time been recovered.—Ed.]

THE MEIKONG.

KHONE, 6th June.

Nothing fresh has occurred in this district, and the inhabitants are settling down to their usual pursuits.

CUBA.

Madrid, 16th June.

The opposition of the Deputies belonging to the Cuban Unionist party to the reforms presented to Congress is becoming more accentuated. The telegrams they receive from Cuba support them in the course they have adopted.

A STRIKE OF LAWYERS.

The lawyers in various cities have gone on strike as a protest against the suppression of certain criminal courts.

THE PANAMA FRAUDS.

Paris, 16th June.

The Cour de Cassation has quashed the sentences on M. de Lesseps and M. Eiffel, and ordered their immediate release.

ENGLAND, FRANCE, AND SIAM.

Lord Rosebery has informed the House of Lords that there is no foundation for the statements in the French newspapers as to England having any hand in the hostility of Siam towards France. The British Foreign Office has no knowledge whatever as to the Franco-Siam dispute.

CHOLERA.

Madrid, 16th June.

Cholera continues to be prevalent in Marseilles and Cetto.

THE SPANISH MINISTRY.

Sr. M. Villanueva, member of the Council of Ministers, has resigned, and is replaced by St. P. Cruz.

DEATH OF A DYNAMITARD.

21st June.

While an Anarchist was carrying a dynamite bomb in his pocket near the house of Sr. Canovas, the infernal machine went off by accident, and killed him; several other persons were injured and a companion who was walking with him is in serious danger. —*Hongkong papers.*

THE DROUGHT IN FRANCE.

Paris, 17th June.

In consequence of the extreme dryness fodder for the cattle is failing.

The Minister for Agriculture has enquired the price of rice of inferior quality delivered at a French port.

FRENCH POLITICS.

20th June.

After a speech by Dupuy the Chamber rejected the scheme of partial renewal by 312 against 206.

PERSONALITIES.

Violent scenes have taken place between Clémenceau and Déroulède and Millevoye, who have refused his challenge.

CONFLICTS BETWEEN WORKMEN.

Disturbances have taken place at Berne between Swiss and Italian workmen. One hundred were wounded. —*Singapore papers.*

READINGS FOR THE WEEK.

(Thermometers in the open air in a shaded situation in the English Settlement.)

1893.

		Fahrr. Thermometer.		Rainfall
		Min.	Max.	
June	30	78° 0	97° 0	.....
July	1	77° 2	95° 5	.....
"	2	77° 0	98° 0	.....
"	3	77° 0	95° 5	0.52
"	4	77° 5	91° 7	.....
"	5	77° 0	95° 8	1.72
"	6	77° 0	96° 0	.....

1892.

		Min.		Rainfall
		Min.	Max.	
June	30	74° 1	85° 2	.....
July	1	76° 0	84° 9	0.03
"	2	77° 0	90° 0	.....
"	3	76° 5	92° 0	.....
"	4	78° 9	92° 1	0.01
"	5	78° 9	94° 0	0.22
"	6	73° 8	85° 5	0.20

Sicawei weather report, Friday, 30th June, 10 a.m.: Yesterday the barometer was stationary over Japan at nearly normal height; it continued to fall at Shanghai and over the S. coast of China, whilst it rose gently at Tientsin. This morning the barometer, a little below normal height, continued to fall gently. Continued fine and warm weather probable at Shanghai; upon the S. coast continuation of light breezes varying from S.E. to S.W.—Saturday, 1st July, 10 a.m.: Yesterday the barometer continued to fall slowly at Shanghai and on the S. coast. Light breezes, varying from the S.E. to the S.W., prevailed over the whole coast. This morning the barometer has risen slowly at Shanghai. Continued fine weather probable; light breezes on the S. coast, varying from S.E. to S.W.—Sunday, 2nd July, 10 a.m.: The barometer is almost normal at all stations. It has continued to rise again slowly at Shanghai. Continuation of fine weather probable: on the China coast continuation of light breezes varying from S.E. to S.W.—Monday, 3rd July, 10 a.m.: Yesterday the barometer remained nearly stationary at normal height over the whole coast of China. From Manila observations there appeared to be a small depression in the China Sea. This morning the barometer remained at normal height. Continued fine and warm weather

probable; upon the coast light breezes from varying directions.—Tuesday, 4th July, 10 a.m.: Yesterday, over the whole coast of China, light and variable breezes prevailed; the barometer generally was at nearly normal height with a slight tendency to fall. This morning the barometer continued to fall gently; probably upon the S. coast light breezes varying from S.E. to S.W.—Wednesday, 5th July, 10 a.m.: Yesterday the atmospheric pressures remained nearly normal at all the coast stations, with a slight tendency to fall. Upon the whole coast the breezes remained light and variable. This morning the barometer was rising gently. Continuation of present weather probable at Shanghai; upon the S. coast light and variable breezes.—Thursday, 6th July, 10 a.m.: Barometric pressures continue nearly stationary and normal over the whole coast. Yesterday, the breezes were light and variable upon the coast. Continuance of the same weather at Shanghai, and of the breezes on the coast, probable.

The average minimum of the thermometer in the Settlement in June was 68° 90, the average maximum 83° 88, and the mean 76° 39, against 69° 24, 81° 46, and 75° 35 respectively in the same month of 1892. The rainfall in June was 6° 64 inches, and rain fell measurably on 13 days, against 3° 02 inches and 11 days in June, 1892, and an average of 6° 32 inches and 13° 80 days for the 10 years 1883-92.

Mr. Hannen, British Consul-General, on Wednesday afternoon, despatched to the Secretary of State the following congratulatory telegram:—

"The British community respectfully tender their loyal congratulations to H.M. the Queen, T.R.H. the Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, and Duke of York and H.S.H. the Princess Victoria Mary."

Yesterday the men-of-war *Archer*, *Itlis*, and *Tsukushi*, the Revenue Cruiser *Ping-ching*, the P. & O. steamer *Malwa* and the *Bentomond*, *Catterthun* and *Caermarthen-shire*, as well as numerous yachts, were decorated with flags, as was also the British Consulate flagstaff. The *Archer* and *Tsukushi* fired royal salutes at noon.

Mr. Carl Bock, Consul-General for Sweden and Norway, left for Hankow, by the *Kiangyü* this morning, to investigate the circumstances of the murder of two of his countrymen last Saturday at Sungpu.

It appears that there is likely to be some trouble at Ichang. We have seen two letters from that port, in one of which it is stated "We are in daily expectation of trouble. Many natives have left the native city; in fact there is quite an exodus." The writer concludes by wishing that the *Esq* would soon put in an appearance. The other letter states that the better class of people are leaving Ichang, because it was reported that several thousand *Kolao Hui* men had collected at a place some miles distant, and it was thought they intended to raise a rebellion and attack Ichang. Both letters are dated 30th June. There are no men-of-war at Ichang, though there are two U.S. ships and a British war vessel at Hankow.

His Excellency Herr von Schenk Baron zu Schweinsberg, the new German Minister to China, left Shanghai by the *Tungchow* on Friday last on for Peking.

The numerous friends of Mr. F. A. Morgan will regret to learn that he is so ill that he has been ordered home immediately from Seoul.

It was reported in Hongkong before the mail left that Mr. McLeavy Brown was to replace Mr. F. A. Morgan as Chief Commissioner of Customs at Seoul, Corea, and to be succeeded at Kowloon by Mr. H. E. Hobson.

A report is current in Tientsin that Mr. A. Michie has been requested by the *Times* to become its special correspondent in Cairo. The managers of the leading journal have become sceptical, it is as-

serted, as to the quality of the evidence submitted to the British public from Egypt. The optimistic views of the English administrators are quite incompatible with those of the natives and the French. The *Times* aspires to get at the real facts of the situation by sending a shrewd observer, entirely unbiassed, and uncommitted to any policy or opinion. Mr. Michie's many friends in China will be glad if this report is confirmed. There are few positions in which his robust common sense and his great journalistic ability could so readily be utilised.

Owing to the absence of the U.S. Consul-General, there was no public reception at the U.S. Consulate-General on Tuesday, but a number of residents called on Mr. Emens, the acting Consul-General, and unveiled the Great Eagle that came out originally for Messrs. Russell & Co.'s hong, and was never put up. Messrs. Mustard & Co., as usual, received upwards of two hundred guests to celebrate the "Glorious Fourth."

It was reported on Sunday morning that bar silver, under the influence of a demand for China, had recovered to 33 to 34d., but there is still the gravest uncertainty as to the future.

Bar silver was firm again on Monday at 33½d., and rates were firm here for sterling at 3s. 5d. to 3s. 6d. for telegraphic transfers, and 3s. 7d. to 3s. 8d. for private paper. We seem likely now to have a series of violent fluctuations unsettling all business, until it is definitely known what course the U.S. Congress will adopt with regard to silver.

The issue for the present of Postal Notes by the British Post Office has been stopped by telegram from Hongkong, owing to the uncertainties of exchange. Post Office Orders at the daily Bank rate, however, will be issued.

The mercury got up to 98° in the shade on Sunday afternoon, and seemed to be going higher when a thunderstorm came and sent it down to 77°, from which point, however, it rose again when the storm was over.

A correspondent at Kiukiang, under date the 4th instant, states that the weather has been very hot there, the thermometer touching 101° in the shade. There had been a number of deaths among the natives from heat-stroke.

Between 1 and 2 p.m. on Tuesday, two thunderstorms were experienced at Shanghai, one coming from the N. and the other from the S.E., with the centres over Shanghai, and were accompanied by hailstones, some of which were at least an inch in diameter. The hailstones fell over a considerable area being picked up in North Szechuen Road, the Hongkew Police Station, the Bubbling Well Road, a long way down Broadway, in Pootung, and the English Settlement. There were none at Sicawei or Jessfield. The rain lasted something over an hour, and the fall in that time measured 1.72 in.

Tientsin on Monday and Tuesday last week was visited by very heavy rain accompanied by incessant thunder and lightning. Seven inches of rain fell in 18 hours; these figures, however, very inadequately bring the magnitude of the down-pour before the mind. They mean that within the compass of 1 square mile nearly half a million (453,725) tons of water fell, or in other words that over this small area more than five and a half million (5,636,066) gallons fell every hour.

Chefoo has now a Local Post Office of its own, but does not appear to be quite in working order yet, for letters dated 30th June and 1st and 2nd instant, and a parcel with the stamp dated 30th June, only arrived here on the 5th instant.

The trial of Mr. G. W. Lewis on the charge of being found on enclosed premises in Tiendong Road, with intent to commit a felony, and also with stealing therefrom a canoe, the property of Mr. Mace, has been set down for the 12th inst. in the Supreme

Court. The trial of the two Sikhs for alleged robbery is fixed for the same day.

Yesterday afternoon, some 150 sailors in carriages and headed by a fife and drum band proceeded to Unkaza where they had been invited to a picnic under the auspices of the Shanghai branch of the Missions to Seamen.

A telegram received on Sunday evening from Manila stated that there were signs of a small depression in the China Sea, south of Haiphong.

The Race Club's inaugural concert was repeated at the Grand Stand on Saturday evening, without smoke, to a crowded audience, of which at least half were ladies, who were liberally supplied during the evening with ices and other refreshments, the men having to pay for what liquid support the heat of the weather made necessary. There were a few changes in the programme, which was divided into two instead of three parts. Mr. Macgregor, who was in the chair, made a few introductory remarks, after which Mr. Vinay played the pianoforte solo as before. Mr. Adams Oram then sang *Leonore* again and was heartily applauded. Mr. Lundt played a delightful violin solo, and Mr. Hunter and Mr. Stokes sang Williams's *Larboard Watch*, which was very much enjoyed. Mr. Frank Maitland then delighted the audience, in correct coster costume, with Chevalier's *The Future Mrs. Arkins*. Mr. Hunter gave Millard's *Waiting* in really exquisite style, and as an *encore*, the song *Mona* which produced such an impression on Wednesday. Mr. Wedemeyer followed with *My propensities are all the other way*, and then repeated his very able imitation of our lost tenor, prefacing the song with a few words deprecating the uncalled-for suggestion that had been made that his imitation had any unkind intention. The magic lantern series by Mr. Grage of *Reminiscences of the Shanghai Race Club*, with illustrative remarks by Mr. Little, concluded the first part.

The second part was taken up by the burlesque on *Harmston's Circus*, which went even better than on Wednesday. An addition to the programme, which was intensely comic, was a travesty by Fräulein Carlotta of Signor Stokini's weight-lifting exhibition, and still more fun was made by the appearance of Miss Rosetta in the final act as a Japanese. After the performance the whole *troupe* was photographed by the magnesium light, and a lively supper in the large coffee-room wound up a most memorable entertainment.

The first meet of the Tandem Club took place on Wednesday afternoon inside the Race Course, but the number of spectators was very limited. Nine teams turned out. Mr. McKie, the leader, with two greys; Mr. Shaw, with a white and a dun; Mr. Daniel, with a chestnut and a grey; Mr. Ogilvie, with a nutmeg grey wheeler and a grey leader; Mr. Burkill, with two greys; Mr. Barnes Dallas with two creams; Mr. Brodie Clarke with two bays; Mr. George Dallas with two greys; and Mr. Cameron with two bays. Most of the drivers had ladies with them. Some of the teams will look and go better when they have had a little more practice. There was no horn. The drive was to Alpha Farm where the party were courteously refreshed, and they broke off at the Grand Stand.

Nanking despatches report the execution on the 1st inst. of three men, supposed to have been *Kolao Hui* members of minor consequence.

A fine harvest is expected this year in the province of Kiangsi, owing to the glorious weather that has been experienced the past two months, with just enough rain.

H. E. Yang Ju, Chinese Minister to the United States, Spain and Peru, will not leave Shanghai for San Francisco for a fortnight or ten days yet, as further instructions by mail are expected from the Viceroy at Tientsin.

The new forts, built on a semi-European model, at Huk'ou, at the entrance of the Poyang lake, in Kiangsi, which were commenced last year, have now been completed and will be armed with some 8-inch and 9½-inch guns, with thirty others of smaller calibre.

A man named Chang Yang-tsin, a clever dollar counterfeiter, was arrested by the Hongkew detectives on Saturday while attempting to pass off his spurious money on one of his victims whom he had already victimised on a former occasion.

There are rumours afloat, remarks a native paper, to the effect that a place in Huhhsien, Kuangtung, has suddenly subsided and a lake formed of very great depth, the area of which does not appear to be very large, covering only a few acres. No lives are reported to have been lost.

Later advices to the *Hupao* with reference to the late disaster at the Canton powder works and magazine give the number of persons killed by the falling of walls or stones as over fifty, and badly injured nearly three hundred; but over 2,000 families have been rendered homeless by the collapsing of their domiciles.

A disastrous fire occurred on the 26th ultimo at Hankow in rear of the temple of the God of Medicine, in which a number of houses and families were burnt out; the sadness of the affair being that the principal sufferers are poor people who have lost their all and the savings of years in the fire.

A proclamation by the Commissioner of Police in the native city and suburbs, issued on Monday, names seventy-one rowdies who have been "exploiting" the natives, and a general warrant has been issued for their arrest. The public are invited to help the law in bringing these men to justice.

Ichang despatches state that a ferry boat laden with over thirty persons attempted on the night of the 16th ult. to cross the river, during a strong freshet, but the lowdah of the boat being drunk at the time, ran her athwart the anchor chain of a steamer then lying in the stream, with the result that his boat capsized, drowning over twenty persons.

Advices from Tientsin state that the Peking authorities in charge of the celebration of the sixtieth birthday of the Dowager Empress, have notified to the Railway Directors that they will borrow 1,000,000 taels this year and next from the Railway Construction Fund. These sums will be recouped by grants of three millions (instead of two) in the two following years.

A native paper says traders from different parts of the empire who have business in Szechuan usually buy drafts upon banks in Chungking, but on account of the tightness of the silver market lately, many hitherto solid houses have been compelled to close their doors owing to inability to pay the orders on them. As much as half a million taels have been lost in this way by visiting traders, and a panic is feared.

The native papers repeat the rumour that H. E. Kung Chao-yuan, our former Taotai, is appointed Minister to London. The general impression, however, is in official circles that his present post, the Provincial Treasurership of Szechuan, one of the most lucrative offices in the Empire, is so good, that H. E. Kung will move heaven and earth to retain it; and that the actual appointee will be H. E. Hu Yü-fen, Provincial Judge of Kuangsi, whose present post is a very poor one.

It is stated at Wenchow that the dealers in Wenchow tea have lost large sums of money in their tea transactions this season, and that when the time came for settling accounts with buyers at the Dragon Festival term (the 5th of the 5th moon), only about fifty per cent. of their debts could be collected. In consequence of this, the outlook for them is exceedingly grave and a number of firms are expected soon to collapse unless the market becomes firmer in the meanwhile.

Owing to the numerous gambling resorts amongst the Chinese at Nagasaki, the Consul, Mr. Chang, ordered the closing of all places of a questionable character opened by Chinese. Upon this, the offenders removed to the Japanese quarters, where however, in conjunction with the Japanese authorities, the Chinese Consul also closed them, and has, so far, deported nearly twenty of the gamblers, some of whom were turned over to the Shanghai Magistrate the other day.

The Shanghai magistrate has sent back to his native country a Korean, under the charge of a couple of runners. It appears that the Korean is an artist by profession and arrived at Nanking a year ago, where he made quite a name as a painter of flowers, and as a pugilist. Having recently got into a fight with an adjutant of the Viceroy Liu K'uu-yi, over his wine cups, the matter was reported to the former, who first dismissed the adjutant from his service and then sent the Korean to this port to be shipped back to Korea.

The other day we had occasion to notice the smart work done by the Municipal detectives in helping the native authorities to arrest some of the men connected with the recent robbery at Kahsing. The detective whose smartness procured the arrest of an important member of the gang is a young Chinaman called Say-Foh, and his services have been fittingly recognised by the Kahsing prefect who sent on Sunday the sum of fifty dollars to the Mixed Court Magistrate requesting him to hand the money to the detective in question with the former's thanks. The presentation was made on Tuesday afternoon by Mr. Tsai, the Mixed Court Magistrate.

A Chinese gentleman Mr. Li, a Hanlin in rank, who was appointed by the Throne recently to superintend the distribution of the Imperial gratuity in aid of the famine sufferers in Shansi, returned recently to Tientsin for more funds, and brought with him nearly one hundred orphan boys ranging from eight to twelve years of age, who had lost their parents during the famine. The unfortunate children will be placed in the various charity schools of Tientsin, and when arrived at the proper age will either be sent to learn a handicraft or trade, or be turned into sailor boys in the Peiyang fleet, according to their individual predilections.

An Imperial Edict dated the 1st instant arrived on the same night at this port for H. E. Yang Ju, Chinese Minister to the United States, Spain and Peru, appointing him Sub-Director of the Court of Sacrificial Worship, a rank of the 4th grade at Peking, but which in the provinces stands on a par with a Provincial Judge or a Salt Commissioner, or that of the 3rd grade, carrying a light blue button with it. In a former issue we published a Decree shortly after His Excellency's appointment making him a Metropolitan Official of the brevet fourth grade, hence the present decree is another promotion for His Excellency which also carries with it substantial emoluments.

His Excellency Freiherr von Schenk zu Schweinsberg, the new German Minister to the Dragon Court, writes a native correspondent from Foochow, while on a visit to that port from Swatow, called on the 17th of June last on the Governor-General T'an Chung-lin and the Tartar General Hai Yuan, their Excellencies returning the visit the same day. On the 19th the German Minister was invited to a semi-foreign banquet at the Pechihli Guild, the hosts being the above-named officials, the other guests being the American Consul, the German Interpreter, Luug Taotai, Chief of the Foreign Bureau of Fukien, and the Deputy Commissioner of the Bureau, an expectant prefect.

We have been informed from Peking that the Board of War and the Admiralty Board at the instance of the Viceroy of the Min-Cheh and the Governor of Chêkiang have determined to strengthen the defences

of the Chusan group as well as the entrances to the ports of Ningpo, Wenchow and Hangchow, as well as the island of Pootoo. A number of forts are to be built on the European model and their garrisons will be drawn from existing battalions now in the inland districts. One reason for the new move is said to be the intention to control the sea route between the ports of the two provinces against the innumerable piratical craft that infest the sea coast; but this is probably not the main reason.

There is an annual government grant of something like seventy taels to the inmates of the Eastern and Western Leper Hospitals of Foochow, the origin of which we would be glad to hear explained by some of our Foochow sinologues. As the usual time for disbursement, May, had apparently been passed over by the Viceroy T'an Chung-lin, in a fit of mental forgetfulness, his Excellency was suddenly aroused to a sense of his duty the other day as he was leaving his *yamen* to call upon the new German Minister, by being surrounded by a mob of these unhappy creatures who asked "but for their rights." It is needless to say that they got them before his Excellency could go further on his way.

In anticipation of the approaching departure for the United States of H.E. Yang Ju, Chinese Envoy to the United States, Spain and Peru, already noted in these columns, the native officials of this port will give the stereotyped farewell and "Godspeed dinner" to his Excellency at the Bankers' Guild on Ningpo Road this afternoon, and a Chinese theatrical troupe will also perform before the distinguished guest. The hosts are H.E. Nieh Taotai; Süu, Taotai, Shanghai Director of the China Merchants' Company; Liu, Taotai, Co-Director of the Kiangnan Arsenal; the Marine Subprefect, Mr. Liu; and Messrs. Huang, Ts'ai and Kêh, the magistrates of the native city, and English and French Mixed Courts respectively.

The China Merchants' S. N. Co., says a Tientsin letter, are to have another Director in addition to the five already appointed, in the person of Mr. Luh Hsien-yuan, who while Taotai of the Kaoliên-ch'ing Intendancy of Kuangtung, three years ago, was dismissed from his post on account of misdemeanours committed by his subordinates. The new Director is the author of quite a number of standard books on ancient Chinese history and classical poetry, and employed his retirement from public life in revising and annotating his works. In recognition of his services to the literature of the country the Emperor decreed that Mr. Luh should go to Tientsin and that the Viceroy Li should place him in some post of importance. Mr. Luh Hsien-yuan was given the above-named post on the 1st inst., in consequence.

Among many of the expensive ornamental buildings that are to be built or repaired by the Celebration Committee in honour of the Empress Dowager's birthday next year will be, or is intended to be, a beautiful Throne Hall, the framework of which will be entirely covered and decorated with two million pieces of variegated silks of the broadest pattern with the words "Imperial Longevity" on them. The Throne Hall in question is to be placed on the route of the Triumphal Progress of the Dowager Empress from the I-ho Spring and Autumn Palace to the Palaces in the Forbidden City, and it is intended that H.I.M. shall make it a resting place as well as receive there some of the congratulatory addresses from the Princes and Ministers of the Court. Another improvement will be the building and repairing of a granite road between the "Forbidden City" and the I-ho Palace, a distance of about ten miles.

We have reason to believe that Shêng Taotai, the progressive—we had almost written aggressive—chief director of the China Merchants' Company is contempla-

ting a scheme by which in a few years, the executive and engineering appointments in the Company's service will be held by natives. The scheme is at present only in incubation and has not yet reached even an embryonic stage. His Excellency is resolved to have no half measures, and it is anticipated that some plan similar to that by which the Imperial Navy is now officered will be adopted. With a view of meeting the requirements of the Marine Insurance Companies, the officers would in all cases have to pass the Board of Trade examinations in Hongkong or some equivalent standard established by the Chinese Government. It would necessarily be a matter of some eight or ten years before the existing staff would in any way be affected by the new departure, and probably a much longer time before the new men reached positions of responsibility and command.

Nanking advices to this port state that Tsêng Ming-kao, who recently gave the important evidence which cleared up many doubtful incidents in the case of Li Hsien-mou of the *Kolao Hui*, has been sent to Wuchang at the request of the Viceroy, Chang Chih-tung, who wishes to try the man on some charges in which he has been reported to have been the principal culprit. The peculiar individual power of the various Viceroys of this empire will be illustrated in this case, for although Tsêng Ming-kao has been pardoned by the Viceroy of the Liang Kiang on account of his important voluntary confessions, this will not prevent Chang Chih-tung decapitating the man on different grounds, connected with this Revolutionary Society. *Apropos* of this, a recent proclamation of Liu Kun-yi calls upon all members of the *Kolao Hui* society to deliver up their tickets of membership within the year, on promise of an unconditional pardon. The proclamation further announces that as Li Hsien-mou, K'uang Shih-ming, and other leaders of the society have been beheaded, all the rest will be treated as minor members.

We mentioned the other day the case of a man who had been run over by a carriage driven by a *mafoo* belonging to the "Kungyi stables," and that the man had died in consequence of the injuries received, and that the *mafoo* had been taken to the city by the magistrate to be dealt with "according to law." The relatives of the deceased arrived here last Saturday from Ningpo, and were approached by the proprietor of the stables who was willing to deal "handsomely" with them if they would ask for mercy from the magistrate. On Sunday they appeared before the Court and asked that the *mafoo* should be released as "both were to blame" in the accident, the deceased having been drunk at the time. The magistrate replied that according to Chinese law the man who accidentally caused the death of another should be banished 3,000 *li* from the scene of the accident, but as they desired to withdraw the case on the ground that the *mafoo*'s people were willing to give a handsome competence to the deceased widow and child, he would stretch a point, but he could not allow the man to go scot-free.

An Imperial Edict, or rather a Circular from the Grand Council, at the instance of the Emperor having been received on the 28th ult. by the Putai of Hangchow ordering Huang Yu-en, recently promoted from the Provincial Judgeship of Chékiang to be Treasurer of Fukien, and Tsao Shu-jao, Taotai of Wenchow promoted to the Judgeship of Chékiang, to go up to Peking without delay, both these officials, writes a correspondent, are busy preparing for their journey, although a previous Edict had exempted H.E. Tsao Shu-jao, which would have meant a saving to him of about Tls. 25,000 in Board fees, etc. In the meanwhile the Provincial Treasurership of Fukien has been filled *pro tem.* by Lung Taotai (a native of Hunan and a special favourite

of his fellow provincial the Viceroy), Salt Superintendent of Fukien, which is an unprecedented step in the annals of red-tapism in China, his post being only a 4th grade one, while the Treasurership is that of the 2nd grade, and the Provincial judgeship will be filled by a Manchu, Hui Nien, Salt Commissioner of Chékiang, which is all right as both are classed as 3rd grade posts.

There has been quite a quantity of counterfeit coins of the lower denominations, writes a native correspondent from Canton, put into circulation lately, and it has puzzled the authorities to find out the makers. The other day, a cry of "Robbers!" was heard in an alley outside the city walls of Canton and the military police appearing the robbers decamped, but what surprised the guardians of the peace was that the inmates of the house where the robbery was attempted were also "making tracks" as if apprehensive of arrest also. This aroused the suspicions of the Captain in charge of the soldiers, and making an investigation, he found a number of stamps and dies for making 20 and 10-cent pieces, similar to those made at the government mint. The counterfeiters, seeing the soldiers, were afraid of discovery and so decamped, which was just the thing to invite the inspection of the former who otherwise, having made the robbers run, would have been satisfied with their bravery and quietly marched off again without looking into the house. Fortunately the proverb of the wicked fleeing when no man pursueth was exemplified in this case, and led to the discovery of a large gang of counterfeiters. The plant, machinery, stamps, and dies were eventually sent to the Mint and examined by the Europeans there who testified to the skill shown in their manufacture. Over 2,000 stamps and dies were seized.

The annual Fire Brigade parade in the native city which was to have taken place near the Lily lake inside the City Tea Gardens on Monday was suddenly called for Sunday, owing to the fact that H.E. Nieh Taotai and Colonel-Commandant Liao, before whom the parade was to take place, had invited H.E. Yang Ju to a farewell banquet for on Monday. In addition to the change of date, a change of place was also made, the parade being made at the Military Assembly grounds outside the South gate of the native city. Twenty-three fire engines took part, gaily decorated with many coloured rosettes and flags. Each civil and military *yamen* furnished one engine manned by some twenty-five firemen paid by the government; but the neatest, smartest and best appointed were those belonging to the Guilds and Charity institutions. The ceremonies commenced with the usual sacrifices by the Taotai to the Dragon-god, who is the patron of the craft, as he spouts water and grants rain to the parched earth—the fire engines being called in Chinese *Shui-lung* or "Water dragons." Then H.E. Nieh Taotai, Colonel Liao, and their respective suites having examined and carefully inspected each engine, a match was arranged between each engine, the men being exercised, as if there were really a fire and the engine that sent up the highest stream in the quickest time was adjudged to have taken the first prize, which consisted of a thin silver plate with the word *Shang* or "Reward" embossed on it, one for each of the winners, as well as a tael in money for each of them. The second down to the sixth prizes consisted only of gifts of money. The parade came to an end at 4.30 o'clock after occupying over four hours.

The *Moyune*, the first tea steamer from Hankow, arrived at London on Monday, the telegram announcing the fact being despatched from London at 4 p.m. on that day.

It is pleasant to know that some of the sales of fine and finest Ningchows ex *Moyune* show fairly good results.

The dealers at home appear to be picking out the fine teas from the *Moyune's* cargo, and buying them at satisfactory prices; but so far, no attention seems to have been paid to the inferior class teas.

The Russian tea steamer *Orel*, for Hankow, passed up the Yangtze on Friday afternoon. The Russian tea steamer *Kostroma*, from Hankow, passed out of the Yangtze on Friday last.

The *Gharze* passed out of Woosung on Thursday night (29th ult.), having on board two steamers in pieces which are to run on the Amoor under subsidy from the Russian government. Eight more steamers are coming out, the Mogul line having been selected to bring out some of them. The *Gharze* took with her from Shanghai 331 native artisans who will be employed putting the steamers together at Nicolaevsk.

The German gunboat *Wolf* is expected to proceed shortly to Bangkok, though nothing definite has been settled. According to present arrangement, the *Illis* is to leave here on Saturday for Nagasaki and Kobe. This arrangement is also liable to alteration.

H.M.S. *Firebrand* left on Monday for Nagasaki in charge of the First Lieutenant, Lieut. and Commr. Tufnell following by mail steamer. Some surprise has been expressed at this gunboat's going to Japan, as her light draught was supposed to make her specially suitable for service on the Yangtze.

H. M. S. *Reipole* left Shanghai yesterday for Chinkiang to relieve the *Esk*, which will then proceed to Wuhu.

The *Firebrand* arrived at Nagasaki yesterday afternoon, and sails for Yokohama via the Inland Sea on Monday next.

The *Bravuschiczig*, with Berlin dates to 5th June, left Singapore at 11 a.m. on Saturday for Hongkong and Shanghai.

The *Salazie*, with the French mail, left Singapore at 7 p.m. on Tuesday for Hongkong and Shanghai.

The R.M.S. *Empress of China* arrived at Vancouver on the 4th instant, at 6 p.m. one day ahead of schedule time.

The *Pingchee* returned on Tuesday with the Bell Buoy moored at the entrance of the Yangtze, but which was knocked adrift by a steamer colliding with it.

Silk shipped per *Saikio Maru*, from Shanghai on the 20th May, and sent forward from Yokohama by the *City of Peking*, arrived at New York on the 27th ultimo.

Formosa advices state that the Pescadores, which heretofore have had no regular steam service to carry official despatches to and from Formosa, will now be served by the little *Nantung* which hitherto has been used by the authorities to run between the Formosan Coast ports. The *Smith* will run regularly between Formosan ports and Amoy, and the *Cass* to Shanghai, while the *Feichen* will be used as occasion requires to run longer distances, being the largest of the steamers.

The *Kuangchia*, *Kuangyi* and *Kuangping* of the Kuangtung fleet which visited this port the other day and afterwards went up the Yangtze for a cruise, returned to headquarters at Whampoa, near Canton, on the 1st inst. The machinery, guns and fighting gear of the new ships are reported to have worked without a hitch throughout the whole voyage.

Owing to the death of a quartermaster belonging to the *Esk*, who was left behind at the Shanghai General Hospital, the flags of the men-of-war in port were at half-mast on Friday afternoon.

Dr. Whitney, who has medical charge of the cattle in the Hungfei dairy informs us that two of the cows have died of rinderpest and that two others are sick; all the healthy cattle are now away in the country and the milk they supply is good. Dr. Whitney, whose abilities are well known, states that the customers of the dairy may depend upon him to see that only wholesome milk is supplied. In rinderpest, as

we have stated before, sick cows give no milk.

The market account for June of two gentlemen who mess together amounted to \$15.30. Having had reason to make a cut, they only paid \$15, and soon received the following specimen of Chinese English:—

"Please Mrs. — are you well.

"Mow-Shing shop beg respectfull can you give me graceful by the price. It is cannot less, you must according the market price is not dear was usual for sell your Sir."

We are indebted to the Captain of the *Catterthun* for late files of New South Wales papers.

Messrs. Arnhold, Karberg & Co. inform us that the South British Fire and Marine Insurance Company of New Zealand has not been affected by the recent suspensions of the Australian banks, none of the Company's funds being invested in any of them.

We have received from the respective authors, and hope to notice shortly more fully, a reprint with diagrams of *Père Chevalier's* lecture on the *Bokhara* typhoon of October last; and a monograph by *Père Havret*, with two very valuable maps, on the province of Ngan-hoei (Anhui). This book is a very complete answer to the request sent out by the China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, three years ago, for information on the subject of inland communications in China.

We have received from the Statistical Department of the Customs a copy of the *Customs Gazette, Part III. Fines and Confiscations*, for 1892. The detected delinquencies of the smugglers fill 265 large pages. A casual examination shows that the Customs do not err on the side of severity when smuggling is detected, though when necessary we notice that heavy penalties are inflicted, but this does not often occur.

The June issue of the *China Medical Missionary Journal*, to which we propose to refer hereafter at greater length, reached us on Saturday. It contains two or three gruesome articles of special interest to the profession, and two or three, with a large number of notes, of a lighter and more generally interesting nature, and we must again congratulate Dr. Mathews on the skill with which it is edited.

The June issue of the *Chinese Illustrated News* is a remarkably interesting number opening with a "Historical Sketch of Navigation," very well illustrated; including two very good sketches of the Gateway of St. Mary's Church, Oxford, and Christ Church College; and three illustrations of Lebanon and its cedars. There are, too, several readable articles, among them one on the World's Fair at Chicago, all this in a neat wrapper for something over 2 cents a number, or 25 cents a year, or 20 cents a year if 10 copies are taken. It is published by the Chinese Religions Tract Society.

The report of the Pacific Mail Steamship Co. for the year ended 30th April shows the total earnings to have been \$4,118,423 and the total expenses \$4,175,214, leaving a net loss of \$56,760. Mr. G. J. Gould, the president of the Company, in a letter accompanying the report, says:—"As you will observe, it is not a favourable showing. This is due in the first place to the quarantine at the Isthmus of Panama against American and European ports during the cholera scare last autumn, at which time the business of the Company fell off very materially and the expenses largely increased. On the 1st of February last, the contract which had existed between the Pacific Mail Steamship Company and the Panama Railroad Company for 15 years was terminated by limitation, and since that date this Company has been shut off almost entirely from any participation in the business between New York and the American ports of the Pacific. This, of course, has reduced the earnings very heavily, while the reduction in expenses would only begin to show from the present

time, as the operations of the Company's fleet could not be reduced immediately. Owing to the demands on my time from other corporations, in which I am largely interested, I have decided not to be a candidate for re-election to the office of President of your Company."—*Daily Press*.

The *Review* of the 24th of May last takes the North British and Mercantile Insurance Co., of the fire department of which Mr. J. A. Ballard is the Shanghai agent, as an illustration of the modern tendency of big things to become bigger. The accounts of its fire department for 1892 show net premia received £1,467,319, and net losses, including claims arising prior to 31st December last, £998,384. The fire funds, irrespective of the paid-up capital, and after paying a dividend of £1 per share, tax-free, were £2,251,554, and the total assets of the Company on 31st December last were £11,141,294. It may be noted that the net premia in 1886 were £1,142,730. The directors admit that 1892 was a disappointing year as far as losses were concerned; and appended to the accounts is a very outspoken report by the shareholders' auditors, which should be taken to heart by the managers of Fire Insurance Companies. They say:—"As regards the results of the past year, these have been most unsatisfactory, the fire business proper, apart from interest and dividends on investments, which amounted to £109,778, having resulted in an actual loss of £24,375. This arises, as the shareholders are doubtless aware, from the exceptionally heavy fire losses of the year, a state of matters by no means peculiar to this Company,—it may be hoped that these heavy losses will lead to a legitimate strengthening of rates of premium, and to some moderation of the excessive emulation among the fire insurance companies which has undoubtedly contributed in no small degree to recent unsatisfactory results."

Mr. B. Ruttunjee writes as follows in his weekly share report, dated the 29th ult.:—So absorbed have investors been in the *facilis descensus Averni*—the rapid fall in exchange—that they have not had much inclination to devote any serious attention to stocks. Consequently but a small business has to be recorded, and that at prices which, save in the case of Bank of China, &c. shares, show but the slightest movement either way. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation shares have changed hands at 102 per cent prem., and Bank of China, Japan and the Straits, Ltd. shares have been parted with at Tl. 0.50. Insurances.—Marine.—Sales of Unions at \$83. North-Chinas at Tls. 125, and Traders at \$92 have been reported. In Fire, a transaction in Chinas at \$82.50 has been made public. Shipping.—Indo-Chinas are offering at Tls. 21. Cargo Boats.—Wharves and Docks.—Mining.—Lands.—All stocks under these headings are quiet. Miscellaneous.—Sales of Waterworks at Tls. 157.50, Sugars at Tls. 22.50 and at Tls. 23, and Sumatra Tobaccos at Tls. 130 and at Tls. 125 are reported.

An unemployed Portuguese was fined \$3 by the Portuguese Consul on Tuesday for assaulting the police. A Spanish subject concerned in the same offence was remanded by his Consul, but denies he assaulted the Police. He says he went to the Police Station with the other man and was then charged by a native policeman.

At the Mixed Court on Monday morning a native was charged with stealing a pass book from the German Club and by means of it obtaining some rice. He was sentenced to 100 blows. The receiver of the rice was dismissed. For uttering a counterfeit dollar, with intent to defraud, a Soochow man was sentenced to 100 blows and to be deported. Three days' imprisonment was the sentence on a jinricksha coolie for touting for hire. For attempting to extort money and stealing, five natives were before the Court. One was sentenced to receive 200 blows and to be deported, one was ordered

to receive 100 blows, one got four and another two weeks' imprisonment and the fifth man was dismissed. The complainant in this case being a gambler who thought he could cheat the prisoners out of their money found they knew more than he did and he was ordered to be locked up for a week and then to be deported. For permitting gambling in his premises a Ningpo tea-shop man was fined \$4. For gambling with dice, a Ningpo man was ordered to be cangued for one week. A man was accused by one of the China Merchants' Co.'s clerks of stealing a document from the Company and using a false seal to get possession of the goods, valued at Tls. 200, from the Customs. He was ordered to find security for immediate payment of the Tls. 200. An assault case gave two men 100 blows each with 2 weeks' cangue as an accompaniment. A fighting case gave the two men 14 days each. In the case of a foreigner's mafuo who had tried to "evict" a couple of men from his master's premises by the Soochow Creek and got ducked in it for his pains, including some hard blows on his chest and sides, the culprits were ordered to find security to keep the peace.

The *Daily Press* of the 26th ult. says:—As suggested by our contributor "Upsilon" the other day, it is likely that the community will be asked to lend their support to one or two schemes of magnitude in the near future, and we learn that one is to be set afloat immediately. The proposal is a somewhat ambitious one, being nothing less than the inauguration of an Athletic Festival to be held in Hongkong during December. The scheme is that the coast ports, Singapore, Shanghai, Yokohama, Kobe, and perhaps places even a little further afield might be induced to send representatives to compete in national sports, such as running, rowing, jumping, wrestling, boxing, &c. Valuable trophies would be offered and three days' excellent sport might be provided. In addition to these attractions it is also suggested that a dog show, horticultural show, and exhibitions on a small scale of interesting objects might be held under the same auspices. The idea is a good one if sufficient promises of support are received from our neighbours to endow the occasion with some interesting inter-port contests. A meeting is shortly to be held to consider the matter and draft a scheme.

We have received Hongkong papers to the 28th ult.—A Tongking editor having been accused of asking \$10,000 to support the match monopoly in the colony, has explained that he was only in fun.—The Siamese are actively pushing forward their defence works at the mouth of the river.—The *China Mail* says that the Maxim Gun Company at Hongkong are drilling actively.—A new 10-knot tug, 95 feet long, 17 feet broad, and 9 ft. 6 in. deep, has just been built by the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co. for the P. & O. Co., Hongkong. She is named the *Dragon*.—"Ye Cronies" celebrated the anniversary of the Battle of Bannockburn by a bagpipe dinner at the Peak Hotel on the 24th ult.—It is again reported as most probable that the command of the Mediterranean Squadron will be given to Vice-Admiral Sir Edmund R. Fremantle.—The Hongkong A.D.C. propose to play Gilbert and Clay's popular comic opera *Princess Toto* about Christmas next if a sufficient guarantee fund is raised.—The *Hongkong Telegraph* asserts that the opposition of the Hongkong Bank directors to the proposed Exhibition is not disinterested, as only four of the ten directors are of British birth, but this appears to be a misapprehension.

The *Daily Press* of the 28th ult. says:—The French mail steamer *Ozuz*, which arrived last night at 6.15, appears to have indulged in somewhat remarkable peregrinations around the harbour to the annoyance of passengers, police, and post office. Having gunpowder and dynamite on board she was ordered to proceed to the anchor-

age set apart for vessels carrying these explosives, but great difficulty was experienced in manœuvring the big steamer among the shipping. Several times her anchor had to be dropped to avert collisions and it is stated that for ten minutes she was fixed on a spit of sand off Yaumati. Jibs were set in order to bring her round and intermittent orders of "full speed astern" and "full speed ahead" were given for two or three hours. At last the post office launch managed to secure the mails, and the passengers, loudly grumbling, were landed. The mail was delivered about eleven o'clock.

The *Malva* brought us Hongkong papers to the 1st inst.—It is proposed to start a floating hotel in Colombo, the hull to be built of steel in England and sent out in pieces.—The steamer *Propontis*, which was withdrawn at the former auction owing to the price offered, \$49,000, not reaching the limit, was sold by auction on the 28th ult. to Mr. Yung Kwong-cheung for \$40,500.—The *Daily Press* of the 30th ult. discusses the advisability of the Eastern Crown Colonies, including Hongkong, adopting a gold standard.—A young girl was burnt to death in a small fire at Macao on the 29th.—The first summer Gymkhana meeting came off very successfully in Hongkong on the 30th ult. The 2-mile foot race for Asiatics was won by Gundah Singh; the 1-mile foot race for Europeans by Private Stevenson; the 1/2-mile pony race by Mr. Hart Buck's *Viper*; the 50-yards wheelbarrow race by Privates E. Griffith and F. Jones; the Ladies' Nomination, 500 yards, by Mr. Master's *Emerald*; and the pony race, once round, by Capt. Thomas' *Stonehenge*.

The *Foochow Echo* of the 1st gives the following tea statistics:—

	To-day's total returns of	Yesterday's total returns of
ARRIVALS—		
Congou	438,000 1/2 chs.	437,000 1/2 chs.
Souchong	76,000 "	76,000 "
Oolong	22,000 "	21,900 "
Pekoe	5,600 chs.	5,500 chs.
Scted. Teas	8,500 bxs.	8,000 bxs.
SETTLEMENTS—		
Congou	283,816 1/2 chs.	268,382 1/2 chs.
Souchong	53,419 "	51,940 "
Oolong	7,148 "	7,148 "
Pekoe	4,337 chs.	4,337 chs.
Scted. Teas	5,272 bxs.	4,527 bxs.
STOCKS—		
Congou	154,184 1/2 chs.	168,618 1/2 chs.
Souchong	22,581 "	24,060 "
Oolong	14,852 "	14,752 "
Pekoe	1,263 chs.	1,163 chs.
Scted. Teas	3,228 bxs.	3,473 bxs.

We learn from the *Japan Mail* that Edwin Booth, the great tragedian of the American stage, passed quietly away in the apartments of the Players' Club, New York, on the 7th of June. He had been lying hopelessly ill for a long time.

The *Yokohama Maru* brought us the American mail, with dates from San Francisco to the 8th ult., and Japan papers with dates from Yokohama and Nagasaki to the 28th, and Kobe to the 29th ult.—A farewell dinner was given at the Tokio Club on the 20th to Mr. C. A. W. Pownall, who is going to Europe on four months' leave. Mr. de Bunsen was in the chair.—The Captain and six sailors from an American sealing schooner were cast up on the beach of Samani on the 15th.—The Duke of Abruzzi is coming out to the Far East as a lieutenant on board the *Vo'urno*, which relieves the *Curtatone*.—Mr. W. Copeland, who was lately fined \$25 gold for keeping a disorderly house, made an unsuccessful attempt to commit suicide on the 26th.—The Osaka Russian Oil Co. is opening a manufactory to turn out 4,000 tons a day.—Lieut.-Col. Fukushima had a great reception at Kobe on the 24th, and was assured that by his ride across Siberia he had eclipsed the lustre of Gordon and Stanley. Another Japanese prefers him to Columbus.—News had been received of the death of Mr. Masfen, formerly of Kobe.—The *Vitiaz* was broken in two by a severe

gale on the very day that preparations had been completed to raise her. The part forward of the boilers sank, the after part remaining on the rocks.—Mr. Conn, a resident of Hongkong, was landed at Nagasaki on the 18th in a dying condition from dysentery, and died on the 24th.—Thomas McBain, formerly engineer of the *Hoihow*, cut his throat on board the *Kobe Maru* just before reaching Nagasaki from this. He had been drinking heavily. At the inquest on his remains a verdict of temporary insanity was returned.

The *Japan Mail* gives the following summary of trade in Yokohama for the week ending the 24th ult.:—The import trade has further improved in certain directions, the activity in yarns having considerably increased, all counts being in demand, and a large business having been done in two-fold 42's and 32's. The piece-goods department is much as last reported, the principal article in demand being grey shirtings. Fancy cottons are not in much request, and woollens are dull all round. There is a little better tone in the metal trade, and pig and bar iron have been in more demand; wire nails are also again sought for. Prices, however, are unchanged, and there is a fairly heavy stock. There has been a small enquiry for kerosene, some 20,000 cases of American being taken, but, except a few thousand drums Russian, there have been no fresh arrivals. In the sugar market prices show a downward tendency for all descriptions of browns, mostly due to very large arrivals and recent heavy transactions; but if there is any exception to this condition it is for Takao brands, which are strongly held. There has been a good demand for white sorts, and the values of these are well sustained. Hardly sufficient business has yet been done in new silk to make a market, though the formal opening of the season took place last week. The reports from consuming quarters are not cheerful, and depression is the principal feature of the trade both in Europe and America. This, with a possible large increase in the crops in Europe, China, and Japan, points at present to low prices, though it would be rash to make anything like a prediction on this point. The tea trade is falling off on account of the dullness of the American market. This is most marked in the lower grades of leaf, which are said to be much poorer in quality without being any lower in price. Second crop parcels are now arriving, which, though fairly good in appearance, do not find much favour in "cup." Exchange has further declined.

An Indian paper says the Russians some months ago had laid down supplies for some sixteen hundred men at their fort on Murghabi, in the Pamir region, and the belief obtains from information received from Chinese-Turkistan that a force from Fergana of that strength has already arrived on the spot.

It has been decided that it is not necessary to provide an escort for the British Agent at Yarkand. This looks to be a mistake, remarks the *Pioneer*, after the recent occurrence, in which Mr. Macartney was openly assaulted by Chinese soldiers. Full consideration has doubtless been given to the subject, though the question never arose, as suggested by the Lahore paper, of sending "an escort to the Pamirs" for the simple reason that there are no British officers in that region.

From that very readable paper, *Transport*, we learn that a Board of Trade Inquiry was held at Liverpool on the 18th of May into the stranding of the steamer *Glen-darroch* on the St. Patrick's Causeway, Cardigan Bay, in March last. The Court found the owner would profit to the extent of £1,400 if the vessel were totally lost, and were of opinion that a leak in the condenser was the deliberate act of the chief engineer, who was a son-in-law of the owner. The vessel might safely have been taken on to

Holyhead or Liverpool, but she was improperly navigated, and no adequate measures were subsequently taken to get her off the ground. The Court found that the master and chief engineer had wilfully put the vessel ashore, and therefore the certificates of both would be cancelled.

If the Canadian Pacific decides to build through Crow's Nest Pass, says the San Francisco Chronicle, the other overland lines will be forced to expedite their service. By the new route the Canadian Pacific can make the trip from Vancouver to St. Paul in two hours less than three days. With its fast steamship line to Japan this places the British company in a position to make a bid for the Oriental trade that the American lines, with their present time schedule, cannot equal. It is about time that the Southern Pacific and the Union Pacific were forced into running trains on better time across the level parts of their routes. To fall below thirty miles an hour on the nearly dead level in Nevada, Utah and Nebraska is a mere caricature of railroading.

The Bureau Veritas Monthly List, published on the 1st of June, of wrecks and casualties recorded in April last, announces that 62 sailing vessels were reported as totally lost; 28 by stranding, 6 by collision, 2 by fire; while 4 foundered, 8 were abandoned, 4 were condemned, and 10 were missing. No less than 242 sailing vessels were damaged; 75 by stranding, 50 by collision, 5 by fire, 32 by leaks, and 80 by stress of weather. The steamers totally lost were 18; 10 by stranding, 4 by collision; while 1 foundered, 2 were condemned, and 1 was missing. The steamers damaged were 201; 70 by stranding, 51 by collision, 10 by fire, 5 by leaks, 25 by stress of weather; while 49 reported injury to their engines or boilers.

A very interesting report on mule breeding on the Chinese frontier has been submitted to the Government by Lieutenant Thatcher, Assistant Commandant, Mogoung levy, says the Bombay Gazette. The business, Mr. Thatcher says, is pursued to an almost incredible extent, the whole of the hill country between Memeik and Toli, about 39 days' march, being utilised for this purpose. The system is extremely simple, and identical in the several establishments, of which there are many hundred. Each of these is under a proprietor manager called a *larban*. Two distinct classes of mules are bred. The larger size fetch as much as Rs. 500 each, the smaller, and numerically larger, from Rs. 40. Ponies are also bred and supply mounts for the cavalry garrison of the important town of Yeuansien. The garrison, it may be incidentally remarked, are armed with Winchester repeaters supplied from Hongkong. The mules are admirably trained. The course is begun when the animals are two years old, and lasts for 20 days, after which they can collect together, at a signal, and can carry properly. Certain selected animals undergo a further course of six months. They become the leaders of caravans, turn readily to right or left and halt at command. The intelligence displayed is marvellous, unlike our own transport animals. They can do an enormous amount of work on the least amount of food. They have no vicious tricks, and are considered by Mr. Thatcher to be immeasurably superior in every way to our own animals, and without doubt the finest transport in the world. He advocates the establishment of a Government breeding station in the Shan hills near Maymyo, and thinks it would go far to solve our transport difficulties in India at small expense. The net gains of each mule breeding establishment at present amount to Rs. 50 a year for each animal.

In the course of a leading article written some three weeks before the recent decision to close the Indian Mints to the coinage of silver, the Bombay Gazette makes a very shrewd guess at what was likely to come to

pass and says:—The true remedy is to be found in currency reform—the establishment of a stable standard, in the place of a standard that varies from day to day. For some time past, the prevailing opinion in business centres in India is that the remedial measures, if any, recommended by the Committee, would take the form of an increased seigniorage on silver. If this be the case it is probable that Sir John Lubbock's proposal to raise the royalty to 10% will be adopted. This, however, would manifestly be only a palliative, and so obviously a temporary palliative—in view of the fact that large quantities of silver can be raised from certain mines at sevenpence an ounce—that there is considerable reason to doubt whether such a remedy would seem to the Committee and to Government adequate for the financial difficulties which have to be surmounted. But such a measure might precede the closure of the mints to private coinage, and would prepare the way for that step. Others rightly regard it as essential to a complete remedy that the closure of the mints should be accompanied or followed by the establishment of a gold standard, so that in the not remote future, the finances of India may be made independent of a catastrophic deluge of silver, when the American hoards are thrown on the market. If a gold standard be decided upon, it will, of course, become necessary to fix the ratio between gold and silver. But the ratio of gold to silver cannot be decided upon at once. The closing of the mints would be an indispensable preliminary, so as to raise the value of the rupee above its present level before fixing the proportion which it will bear to the new standard. It is, however, useless to discuss these matters pending a definite announcement as to whether relief is to be sought by a reform of the currency, by the raising of the seigniorage, or by some scheme of increased taxation, accompanied by projects of retrenchment which will be found eventually impossible of realisation.

Nothing of the nature of spurious journalism dating from America could possibly cause surprise, yet, but for the fact that our store of wonder was all drawn out long ago, the latest publishing vagary would assuredly have seemed astonishing. It is called *The Moslem World* and its ostensible object is to spread the cause of Islam. It informs the world that "Islam is rapidly gaining ground in England, has a very encouraging foothold in America, and is destined to become the Universal Religion, much sooner than even some of its most earnest advocates imagine." The world is informed of many other equally remarkable things. Sixteen large pages of printed matter (nearly as large as the pages of the *Graphic*), and a well reproduced frontispiece picture of the Jumma Masjid at Agra, are the full extent of the enormity. Extracts from the Koran, articles on Mohammedan literature, on Islam and Christianity, on the idea of a future life, on the Holy Koran, the "Moslem Brotherhood," "Earnest Mussulmans," and so forth, give the necessary religious colouring to the production, which, for the rest, consists mainly of clippings from American daily papers and quotations from popular authors. The propagandists do not write in a very hopeful strain. They evidently don't expect very many converts. They say: "Those people who prefer to pay some one to do their thinking, rather than think for themselves, and those who are so blinded by religious prejudice, that they are incapable of thinking outside their own sectarian groove, we cannot hope to reach. We will show who and what our Prophet really was, and what Islam really means, and trust to the All-wise God for the results." Good! very good! The note of childlike simplicity is affecting. But what we should like to know is what this absurd publication really means. We think we are getting nearer it here:—"Our Mohammedan brothers in the East should send to the

Congress only those Moulyis who are well grounded in Islam, who are well balanced mentally, and who are able to speak English perfectly. The Congress will commence about the middle of August, and probably hold meetings during the major portion of September. Mohammedan delegates and visitors to the World's Fair, should come to the Moslem headquarters in New York, immediately on their arrival in this country, where they will be given accurate information concerning the routes to Chicago and other matters of importance to them." Precisely! Parliament of Religions advertising agency, hotel tout, etc., etc., etc. This is the true end and aim of all this religiosity. On the front page *The Moslem World* is described as being "entered at the Post Office as second class matter." The proprietors are really too modest. It is quite a first class joke; truly a most excellent puff. If it so happens that any one who reads it is inclined to be disgusted at finding any religion enlisted for puffing purposes and usually reverential language put to such base uses, why that's his look-out. Imagine the chuckle with which a cute Yankee editor must have written these words—with which we dismiss the pious fraud—"When the church-Christians become true Christians the true Christians will unite with the true Mussulmans, and Islam will become the Universal Religion." In the country that gave birth to Mormonism all things are possible!

The following interesting remarks on the Central Asian question are from the St. Petersburg correspondence of the *Standard*, under date the 22nd of May:—

I recently had a conversation with a Russian official of long and great experience in Central Asia, who expects to return there before long. Among the latest projects is one for an extension of the Central Asian Railway from the present terminus at Samarkand to Khokand in Ferghana, within about one hundred and eighty *versets* of the Chinese frontier. My informant most emphatically declared that the danger of any serious conflict between Russia and England in the Pamirs was very remote, if not altogether visionary, and that the real foe whom Russia had reason ultimately to fear, and to fear very seriously, was China. With reference to Bokhara, he considered Russia had made a great mistake in treating the Amir with such distinction. Ten years ago, he said, the Amir would have been only too delighted to stand before the meanest Russian *technonik*, and kiss the skirt of his coat; whereas, at present, he really considered himself a personage of importance. He was cordially hated by his subjects, any of whom would assassinate him at the slightest sign, and all of whom would hail with delight annexation by Russia. This he explained by the money-loving character of the Sarts, who have no fanaticism and no patriotism, and whose only god is money.

The Amir and his satellites plunder and kill the population unchecked, whereas, under Russian rule, though they might have to pay pretty heavily for their privileges, they would have their lives secure, and be able to trade in peace. He spoke most enthusiastically of the enormous natural wealth of Central Asia, which is only waiting for the railway for its development. There are hundreds of square miles covered with rich alluvial soil to the depth of five feet, and irrigated with an unlimited supply of water. Ferghana is a natural Paradise, and the Pamirs are not at all the barren plateau which some travellers have described. His general opinion confirmed the view I have so often expressed, that in the course of the next two or three years the completion of the Siberian Railway will add to the strength and resources of Russia, commercially and strategically, to a degree which does not seem to be at all realised outside Russia.

Miscellaneous Articles.

THOUGHTH.

4th July.

"A THING of beauty is a joy for ever,"—so is a new word in this period of the Decadence when every dictionary has been sucked as dry as an orange, and seekers after originality find it an almost insurmountable task to invent a fresh addition to a language that has already been drawn upon so heavily. Even Mr. Oscar Wilde—that prince of paradoxical phraseology—contents himself with the evolution of epigrams alone, and never courts popularity by the coining of a novel expression; and the amusement with which the curious diction of our American cousins fills us, is sufficient proof that as a nation we have no talent for devising original figures of speech. Therefore the appearance of an almost unique combination of letters in the last number of the *Review of Reviews* makes us all anxious to find out what is contained in an article bearing the extraordinary title of "Thoughth; or On the Eve of the Fourth Dimension." "Thoughth" in itself is bewildering enough; but to readers unfamiliar with mathematical formulæ, the concluding words of the heading seem more mysterious still—horribly suggestive, in fact, of a new section in the world of Politics, whose confusing divisions of Fourth Parties, Liberal Unionists, and the like, make us sometimes yearn to go back to the old simple definitions of Whig and Tory. The unenlightened, however, will soon discover to their great joy doubtless that neither Mr. Gladstone's enemies nor friends are to be introduced to them in a fresh guise, in the present instance; but that the Fourth Dimension only represents a new stage of progress towards that "World of the Unseen" to which our footsteps have already been drawn by the guiding hand of Psychical Research. To go straight to the point at once, the writer reminds us that our present life is led in space of three dimensions, length, breadth and height; but he adds that there is yet another, of which we get occasional glimpses by means of clairvoyance, hypnotism, thought reading, and the various phenomena of telepathy—that may be known as Thoughth. As a square is to a line and a cube to a square—the unfolding of something complete and perfect out of a simple basis—so according to Mr. Stead is the fourth dimension to the three other dimensional spaces in which we live now. At present we see through a glass darkly; but light occasionally pours in upon us through the scientific and occult media before referred to; and the author of the little book on which Mr. Stead bases his remarks, considers that each one of these phenomena is a tiny pin-prick through which the revelations of the fourth dimension are beginning to make themselves known to Humanity. The description of the

goal towards which these phenomena are leading us is certainly calculated to tempt the cultivation of any study that may eventually help to withdraw the veil from such a desirable condition. The writer says that in the new world which the fourth dimension opens for us, life becomes more divine and miraculous than it has ever been conceived by the wildest imagination of the poet. The past mingles with the present and the future unfolds its secrets; Death loses its sting and pain its sadness. Many attributes that have hitherto been considered the exclusive property of the Deity will be shared by his creatures; and the limitations of time and space will entirely disappear.

As a proof of the distance we have already travelled towards this enviable condition, Mr. Stead quotes a number of interesting experiments in telepathic automatic handwriting taken from the personal experience of the writer whose book he is reviewing. The gentleman in question certainly appears in some marvellous manner to be in constant communication with his friends at a distance, without the use of the mechanical means of correspondence adopted generally by the public, and in this way has discovered the inmost thoughts of several acquaintances which modesty or a shy reticence has hitherto led them to conceal. The method adopted seems to be simple enough, for apparently the writer finds his hand suddenly controlled by some one at a distance who wishes to communicate with him, and he thus himself becomes the agent through whom his friends' thoughts are materialised, as he involuntarily writes down the message which always begins and ends with the name of the person from whom it comes. Of course one is anxious to know how he first became aware that he was possessed of such unusual powers; and here we are obliged to confess that Mr. Stead's account of the affair is somewhat unsatisfactory, and we can only hope that the book itself gives a better description of a process that led to such interesting results. Under the heading of "How it all began" the *Review of Reviews* merely inserts the following paragraph:—

"One day in August, 'Julia'—as I call the invisible intelligence that from time to time controls my hand—suddenly wrote: 'Why do you think that it is strange that I can write with your hand? Any one can write with your hand.' I asked what she meant and she answered: 'Any of your friends.' 'On this earth?' I asked incredulously. She wrote, 'Try it.' 'Need they know about it?' 'No.' 'Then,' I said, 'there will be an end of all the secrets in the world.' She wrote 'No; mind is in contact with mind all over the world. Any one to whom you could speak if you were within range of the physical senses, you could speak to mentally wherever he is, because the mind is not trammelled by the limitations of matter.' She explained that

the real self, the *ego*, had both mind and body as its instruments, by which it could communicate with the outside world. Both were instruments, either could be used, but each was not always informed of the use which had been made of the other. That is to say, it was perfectly possible for the *ego* to use your mind to direct my hand without finding it necessary to inform your physical consciousness that any such communication had taken place. But the mind would no more communicate a secret which the *ego* did not wish to be known, than the tongue would be guilty of such an indiscretion, for tongue and mind are alike the servants of the real self."

Then follows a lengthy record of several very interesting and highly satisfactory experiments in telepathic automatic writing, which all sound convincing in the extreme, particularly as the writer does not hesitate to acknowledge that, although in most cases the results are almost miraculous, occasionally there are several trifling inaccuracies in the correspondence for which he cannot altogether account. However, these discrepancies do not alter the startling facts of the case, which certainly seem to prove that there are latent powers in humanity that may be developed in an astounding and almost inexplicable manner. And it may seem natural enough to any one who believes in the extraordinary power of sympathy, that human beings who are linked together by what we may fittingly call soul-ties, should be capable of conveying their thoughts to each other, (although parted by long distance) by some other means than that afforded by the prosaic post-office. An instance of this is frequently shown by the oft-repeated fact of two people in a room together, beginning to speak of the same subject at the same moment, from which it is argued that transmission of thought without verbal communication is possible; and probably the experiments to which we have alluded are only the outgrowth of this common occurrence. It is too early as yet to judge whether the development of this new form of intercourse will be of lasting benefit to humanity; those of us who already find our ordinary correspondence a burden will probably be inclined to regard the additional labour of writing out our friend's messages as rather a bore than otherwise. Even the possibility of having one's hand controlled by a fair being rejoicing in the name of Julia would scarcely be compensation enough for what would be a severe tax on our epistolary work; and the prospect of receiving pressing communications from hard-up friends of whose pecuniary troubles one has hitherto been unconscious is not inviting. Besides which the business of telepathic automatic handwriting seems to us essentially an employment for a man of leisure. It would be slightly disturbing to any serious work to be called off in the middle of it to write

out a trivial message from a friend relating his experiences on a little journey to the suburbs and giving an accurate record of his expenses on that occasion. Unfortunately the writer does not state what means one may adopt to put off the correspondence to a more convenient moment; and we have yet to learn whether "Julia," and her myrmidons would be seriously affronted by being dismissed with an official "Too busy," as "Not at home," on the part of an unwilling victim of what Professor Sidgwick describes as the "tapping of a new kind of telepathy."

THE FRANCO-SIAMESE TROUBLE.

5th July.

On the 20th of June last the Editor of the *Siam Free Press* received a note from Mr. E. H. French, H.M.'s Consul at Bangkok, asking him to come round to the Consulate. When he got there, he was told that the Siamese Government objected to the tone of the articles in his paper, and that Capt. Jones, V.C., H.M.'s representative in Siam, had instructed Mr. French to give the editor a warning. When the editor asked for a specification of some of the objectionable articles, he was told that it was not any particular article that was objected to, but the general tone of his writing. He then asked to have the "warning" which he had been invited to receive put in writing, and on the afternoon of the same day he received the following communication:—

"Bangkok, June 20th, '93.

"Sir,

"I forward to you in writing the memorandum of what I just now said to you.

"I am,

"Yours obediently,

"E. H. FRENCH,

"H.B.M. Consul.

"The Siamese Government having complained to the British Government that articles published in your paper are a serious danger at the present moment to public security, I am now instructed to warn you to be more discreet for the future in the tone of your articles and extracts.

"E. H. F."

Captain Jones appears to us, who have read the *Siam Free Press* regularly for some months, to have acted very unadvisedly. That paper has written about the present crisis with intelligence and independence; it has criticised at times the government of Siam, and no paper that is worth its salt can help constantly criticising the actions of Eastern governments. It seems to us that before taking this unusual step, Capt. Jones should at least have insisted on the Siamese government specifying its charges. It is to say the least undignified on the part of the British representative to allow himself to be made the vehicle of such a vague and unsupported charge as that the tone of the *Siam Free Press*

was a serious danger to public security. We can at least congratulate our contemporary on having the influence of its articles recognised in such high quarters.

The tone of the *Siam Free Press* has been, it seems to us, extremely reasonable. It has not attempted to whitewash the French aggression on Siam, which is quite indefensible; but it has suggested that as Siam is in no position to fight a powerful European foe, it should make the best terms it can as quickly as possible. At the present moment France and Siam are rather in the position described in the well-known verse:—

Lord Chatham, with his sword drawn,
Was waiting for Sir Richard Srahan.
Sir Richard, longing to be at 'em,
Was waiting for the Earl of Chatham!

The latest news of the situation, as given in the *Siam Free Press* of the 23rd ult., is that "the Siamese legions have found discretion the better part of valour, and retreated from all positions claimed by the French. There appears to be little fear of any further conflicts along the Meikong Valley. Phya da Chow, Adjutant-General of the Siamese Army, is about to leave, if not already left, for the peaceful banks of the Upper Meikong. Several hundred troops left the other day for the East, and more are said to be ready to follow. The majority of the French China Squadron are now in Saigon. There is a general feeling amongst judges of the situation that Siam will yield on the appearance of French force, or a determination to push matters to the extreme." A correspondent of the *Singapore Free Press*, "whose means of ascertaining the real character of the present political situation, as regards Indo-China and Siam are," that journal says, "of an exceptional nature," has made the following representation of his views:—

"The clearing-up of the difficulty, so long expected, does not make itself apparent. I scarcely think that, at bottom, France really is anxious to make war upon Siam; there are many reasons to prevent that. But the lack of energy and genuine force which hinders the French Minister from taking up an attitude that is definitely warlike equally hinders him from taking up a position that is resolutely pacific. As Siam on her side has no desire whatever to push things to extremes, and as she cannot on the other hand acquiesce in demands that France refuses to define, there results this anomalous situation, which is neither peace nor war, and in which the two parties, all the while continuing to address to each other diplomatic smiles, pinch each other's legs as much as they are able to do. And all the while the real victims of this queer business are the poor diplomatic officials kept here on the spot, in sweltering heat, to compose, scribble out, and decipher despatches and to pursue a solution which vanishes when they think they have arrived at

it, until they wish that they could vanish themselves."

A section of politicians in France who for various reasons, patriotic and otherwise, have been urging colonial expansion, and promising that France should recover in Indo-China what she lost in India, finding Tongking, Annam, and Cambodia something of a failure, if the truth must be told, are supporting M. de Lanessan, the Governor-General of French Indo-China, in his endeavours to improve the situation by annexing a piece of Siam. Siam, they believe, must fall into the hands of England or France, sooner or later, and if they can persuade the French people, who, however, are not keen on colonial expansion à la Tongking, to back them up, they may make the present trouble a step towards annexing Siam altogether. To the civil and military officials in French Indo-China, the store-keepers and contractors, and even the journals, this little war is of course a godsend. France has absolutely no right whatever to the country she is claiming: but she has established commercial posts in the valley of the Meikong, and painted them red, white, and blue on her maps, and now with her love of logical completeness, she proposes to hoist the tricolour over them. It is true that in all the maps published in France until within the last few months, the valley of the Meikong is given to Siam by whom it was conquered more than a century ago, and that Lieut. Garnier himself agreed in this attribution. It is not a question for Siam of right, nor on the other hand has she had more than nominal authority over the frontier tribes. If France intends to extend her borders to the Meikong, it seems wiser for Siam to accede in time, than to lose the whole by not conceding a portion.

THE ROYAL WEDDING.

6th July.

THEORETICALLY, the sovereignty of England is elective as well as hereditary, the legal title of Queen Victoria resting on the statute of 12 and 13 William III, c. 3, by which the succession to the crown of Great Britain and Ireland was settled on the Princess Sophia of Hanover and the heirs of her body, being Protestants. When George IV died childless, he was succeeded by his brother William IV; when the latter seven years afterwards died childless, he was succeeded by his niece, our present Queen, daughter of the Duke of Kent, fourth son of George III. The Duke of York, who is to be married to-day, born on the 3rd of June, 1865, is her grandson and therefore the great-great-grandson of King George the third. His intended bride, the Princess Victoria Mary, better known as the Princess May, of Teck, born on the 26th of May, 1867, is the only daughter of Princess Mary of Cambridge, the second daughter of Duke Adolph of Cambridge, sixth son of George III

The Princess May is therefore the great-granddaughter of George III, and though two years younger than her intended husband, belongs to an earlier generation, her mother being the Queen's first cousin.

Bigoted, obstinate, and unenlightened as King George the third showed himself to be, the English people have always had a tenderness even for his faults. He was good-natured and homely, and erroneous as some of his conceptions of his duty were, he tried to do it according to his lights; and there is no doubt that it is generally felt in England to be satisfactory that our present Royal family descend directly from him, and not through George the fourth. So much harm did George the fourth do to the royal idea in England that some forty or fifty years ago it was gravely doubted whether the monarchy would outlast the present century. The Queen, under the guidance of her admirable consort Prince Albert, proved such an excellent sovereign in every way that republicanism has now no hold on the English people. There have been, indeed, episodes in the Prince of Wales's life that have made people shake their heads; but fortunately for England and for him, the Queen's reign has lasted long enough to give him time to "range" himself, and if the throne were in fact as well as in theory elective, he might now be certain of election. It is hardly to be expected that the Prince of Wales's busy life will be so prolonged as the Queen's has been; and the desire for a republic now being but little felt in England, it becomes very important that the succession to the throne should be provided for. England has done well enough under Queens, very well under her present Queen; but we should not be altogether satisfied if the Prince of Wales were succeeded by the little daughter of the Duke and Duchess of Fife. Only the Duke of York and his descendants stand before the little Lady Alexandra Duff; and it is this which makes the wedding to be celebrated to-day of such importance to the British Empire.

Although William IV was by profession a sailor, and should therefore have had a special regard for that service, the Navy was treated with scanty regard at Court during his reign and during the early years of Victoria's reign. Prince Albert coming from a country which had at that time no navy, hated the sea and took no interest whatever in naval matters, and it was not until after the Crimean War that the navy began to be regarded with almost as much interest at Court as the sister service. The Queen's second son, however, was made a sailor, and he fortunately took as much interest in his profession and made himself as proficient at it, as if he had had to earn his living by it. The Prince of Wales followed his royal mother's example in devoting his second son to the navy, and the young prince, as those who saw him

here twelve years ago can testify, took as much interest and pride in his sea life as if he belonged to one of those well-known naval families whose names come up in the *Navy List* generation after generation. The English people love the navy, and that the heir to the throne after the Prince of Wales is a "sailor prince" makes him more than ordinarily dear to their hearts. Our heritage is the sea, and we have this great advantage over our great English-speaking rivals the United States, that we have nowhere any masses of our people settled where they are so far from the sea as to lose their interest in England's glory. There are hundreds of thousands who will cheer the Duke of York and his bonnie bride to-day with double heartiness because he is a practical sailor.

The bonnie bride herself too is peculiarly fitted for her new position. Her mother, the Princess Mary of Cambridge, has always been a general favourite, and as she and her husband, the Duke of Teck, have been comparatively poor, they have had to lead the unassuming life of country gentry. Thus the Princess May has been brought up in the best of all schools, a thoroughly English home life, with the companionship of her three brothers, a privilege denied to Queen Victoria, and with her flowers, her schools, and her poor to occupy her in her leisure hours.

There are those who mock at the Duke of York and his bride being called thoroughly English, because there are so many non-English branches in their family tree. But it is the glory of a strong race like the English that it assimilates with rapidity and thoroughness the foreigners who come to live with it, and we meet every day, in London and everywhere abroad, the sons of Germans and others who have adopted England as their country, and find that these sons, whatever their names, are as thoroughly English as we are. England need not fear for her traditions in the hands of Captain in the Royal Navy H.R.H. the Duke of York and the Sweet Lass of Richmond Hill, the Princess May of Teck. All marriage is perhaps a lottery, and royal marriages are a lottery in which the prizes are very rare, but there are few marriages made that promise better than the one that is to be celebrated to-day at the Chapel Royal, St. James's. The congratulations that the British community in Shanghai are sending home come from all our hearts: and we shall all of us foreigners here, of whatever nationality, drink to-day with enthusiasm to the long life, prosperity, and happiness of the royal bride and bridegroom.

ONE BOX OF CLARKE'S B 41 PILLS are warranted to cure all discharges from the Urinary Organs, in either sex (acquired or constitutional), Gravel and Pains in the Back. Guaranteed free from Mercury. Sold in Boxes, 4s. 6d. each, by all Chemists and Patent Medicine Vendors throughout the World. Proprietors: THE LINCOLN AND MIDLAND COUNTIES DRUG COMPANY, Lincoln, England.

THE MURDER AT SUNGPU.

7th July.

OUR Hankow correspondent gives in another column a vivid, if hurried, account of the savage murder on Saturday last of the two Swedish missionaries at Sungpu. It is a crying shame that the rioters at Ichang have never been punished, and that Chou Han has never been punished, for it is to their immunity and to the infamous teaching of the latter that the brutal murder of Messrs. Wickholm and Johanssen is undoubtedly due. The man who is most ready to make apologies for the poor ignorant Chinese can make no apology for this outrage. It was entirely unprovoked, and indeed the two murdered evangelists were welcome residents in the town of Sungpu, and their murder was effected by professional cutthroats hired by residents at a distance inflamed by the shameful tracts issued from the Benevolent Hall at Changsha in Hunan. We need not repeat the harrowing story of how the two poor Swedes were hunted along the house-tops, driven down into the street, and there done to death with poles and hoes. What is to be noted is, that the Taotai at Hankow knew that the murder was intended, but, beyond warning the Swedish Vice-Consul at Hankow, who has no force at his disposal, took no measures to protect the intended victims. The small military official at Sungpu tried to interfere, but was driven off by the ruffianly hirelings of the educated disciples of Chou Han.

It is time this savagery was stopped. The victims in this case were "only two Swedish missionaries," and Sweden has no force in China. But we foreigners are only a handful among millions of excitable people, none of whom love us, and many of whom are taught with impunity to hate us. The safety of every foreigner in China outside the range of the shot from our gunboats depends on the people feeling that there is a divinity doth hedge us, which will not allow one of us to be insulted without memorable vengeance being taken. Our Ministers and our Governments have allowed our prestige to be whittled away until such outrages as that at Sungpu have become possible. If the diplomatic body at Peking do their duty now, and insist on exemplary punishment for every one responsible for this murder, from the highest authorities of the two Hu provinces down, this will be the last of them, but not otherwise.

SHÈNG TAOTAI'S NEW DEPARTURE.

7th July.

WE drew attention on Wednesday to a proposed new policy of the China Merchants' Company. Although quite satisfied with the energy and ability of their present executive and engineering staff, they, or Shèng Taotai the present Director-in-chief of the Company, look forward to a time when the entire personnel of the staff will be Chinese

subjects. We cannot feel surprised at this; ever since Joshua crossed the Jordan, "Canaan for the Canaanites" has been a patriotic shibboleth which, slightly modified, has adapted itself to all peoples at all times. We have no fault to find with his Excellency Shêng's appropriation of the principle, unless by a too rigorous application he defeats his own purpose in asserting it. In calmly and impartially pointing out the dangers of the new policy, we are not inimical to it; we shall be glad if our fears are refuted by the logic of facts, if it comes to pass that, within a decade, the fine fleet of the China Merchants' is navigated by an able and resolute band of native-born skippers and engineers.

The scheme now being incubated will probably take the form of that by which the Imperial Navy is officered: cadets, chosen by so-called open competition (in Chinese literature), but really nominated by favouritism, will receive a good elementary English education, which will be followed by mathematics and navigation or engineering; after which the lads will doubtless join a training ship or the vessels of the Company's fleet for a course of strictly technical instruction; placed in subordinate positions they will then probably put in the time qualifications for the Board of Trade examinations in Hongkong, and will then, after passing these or equivalent tests at the hands of the Imperial Government, be drafted into the minor offices of the executive or engine-room.

It is argued that if natives can undertake the management and responsibility of those huge floating arsenals which form the modern battle-ship, they will be quite competent to undertake the lesser cares of coast navigation and merchant seamanship. This is plausible enough; but we beg to suggest that it has not been proved that Chinese can undertake the management of warships, *i.e.*, warships in action. Parenthetically we also may state that we have our doubts about their management in times of peace; we should like to know the opinion of a Hongkong dockyard expert as to the proper maintenance of these costly vessels; we have heard strange but credible stories of corrosion in unseen places through lack of paint—paint paid for but not applied. The question of education, we take it, is definitely settled; it is beyond all doubt established that Chinese can acquire Western science; that they can learn to take sights and navigate a ship with all the scientific precision of a Beaufort scholar: the far greater question of character is our difficulty. Can the average Chinese lad or man show nerve and judgment in time of danger? The whole *cruz* lies in this little nutshell. A bollard head or a bull's foot could be taught to take a ship from A to B in fine weather; a first wrangler slightly deficient in nerve and promptitude would lose a fine vessel in the fairway of a thronged channel.

Perhaps the most striking peculiarity of the professions of the master mariner and marine engineer is the frequent occurrence of dangerous and unforeseen contingencies, in which the slightest error of judgment may cause loss of life and ship. The daily findings of marine Courts of Inquiry make this almost a truism, and yet our whole course of naval education, such as it is, is to develop readiness of resource, to harden the nerves, and to train men to face danger resolutely and calmly. Centuries of seafaring life and naval traditions have to some extent elevated these qualities into national characteristics among us; in our sea-board population they have become fixed by heredity and strengthened by environment. With the class of Chinese who will aspire to these positions, the case is altogether different. The hardy sea-bred lads of Fukien and Chékiang, who make such capital sailors, will not be among the accepted candidates for cadetships. It is almost certain that the baneful custom of the country will guide both the first selection of boys and their subsequent promotion; they will be of the flaccid nerveless class produced by a hundred generations of non-athletic ancestors to whom exercise is an abomination, and muscularity the mark of the beast. The whole bias and tendency of Chinese training, the military profession excepted, is inimical to the adequate fulfilment of duties like those of the master mariner or marine engineer, and we are confident that disaster and financial loss will be the results of any but the most careful scheme to replace foreigners by natives in these offices. We are in some sympathy with "China for the Chinese," and we think it only rational and patriotic of the high Chinese authorities to look forward to the time when all the plums of their service shall drop into native mouths. Some such scheme as is contemplated must sooner or later be undertaken; we would only commend the expediency of hastening slowly in the matter. We would urge the Chinese authorities to beware of the examination *wallah*, of imagining that because a Chinese lad can determine the ship's position by Sumner's method or can recapitulate all that Piddington says of circular storms, he can therefore work his ship in a dangerous channel or enforce discipline in a panic. These are the really important matters in a sailor's office, and unhappily they are not those which can be learned in even the best of naval academies.

With regard to Shêng Taotai's desire to satisfy the Insurance Companies, it does credit to his prescience, but we beg to remind him that the rules of these corporations are not as the laws of the Medes; they can be altered. Let the number of casualties under Chinese officers exceed that of foreigners even by a trifle, the Companies will at once raise their premia or refuse risks. This commercial test will be absolutely devoid

of sentiment or of prejudice, and we shall be both surprised and pleased if for many years to come it does not find the Chinese officers and engineers wanting.

The education of Naval officers has for three generations been a bone for fierce contention among experts at home. The old Admirals maintain that the lads must be caught young and licked into shape. Their theory, as reduced to practice, has done great things for us in the past; it is simply to turn lads into prompt men of action, and leaders of men. Perhaps in these scientific times when ships are marvels of complex mechanism it needs supplementing, but the Admirals' theory is, we are quite convinced, that which Shêng Taotai and his colleagues must reduce to practice: the foreign learning and the technical skill will give no trouble; character and *morale* will offer difficulties almost insuperable under existing social conditions in China. Could a few of the cadets be entrusted for some years to the professional care of the more trusted and experienced skippers and engineers of the Company; could the advice of these skippers and engineers be strictly followed in the promotion or dismissal of the lads, we would have some hope of the speedy creation of a service charged with wholesome notions of duty and responsibility. Favouritism and petty intrigue preclude the hope that any such course will be followed, and are the grounds for our belief in the unwisdom of the new departure. Theoretically it looks both practicable and commendable; in practice we believe it will conduce to disaster and loss of credit unless it is completely dissociated from these evils and we quite fail to see how the dissociation can be effected.

Review.

THE FRENCH MAIL PAPERS.

(FOR THE WEEK ENDING THE 27TH OF MAY.)

Sir John Tenniel's cartoon in *Punch* this week is a real picture, a historical one to boot, representing Lord Salisbury on his way to Belfast as the Tory Tyrant. The following is the accompanying poem:—

THE MINSTREL BOY.

(Latest Ulsterial Version.)

The Minstrel-boy to the war is gone,
By the Belfast road he's coming;
His Party sword he has girded on
And his wild harp loud he's thrumming.
"Land of bulls!" said the warrior bard,
"Though Gladstone's gang betrays thee,
One sword, at least, thy rights shall guard,
One faithful harp shall praise thee!"
The Minstrel's loud—though a little late;
What he hopes to gain some wonder;
But he swears that harp shall preserve the
State,
Which his foes would rend asunder.
He shouts, "Home Rule shall not sully thee,
Ulster, thou soul of bravery!
I'll harp wild war, aye, from sea to sea,
Ere the Loyalists stoop to slavery!"

ENCORE VERSE.

(For use in Clubs and other places where men
—and minstrels—are confidential.)

The Minstrel's hot, and a trifle tired,
For his Whitsun task is a torrid one;
Such holiday-fervour must be admired,
But the precedent's rather a horrid one.

E'en Minstrel-boys of Ulsterical zeal
Might now and then like a jolly day;
And the brave bard's harp, and the warrior's
steel,

Take, together, occasional holiday.

It is with some little surprise that we find in the same number of *Punch* Clement Scott's disgusted poem on the Japanese *misine, O Sino San*, which we extracted some two or three months ago from the *Yokohama Box of Curios*. It is hardly such a credit to Mr. Scott's name as to deserve the more wide-spread publication that it has now obtained.

Lord Salisbury's visit to Ulster was a little dashed by the fact that it was a repetition. Belfast could do nothing more for him that it did for his nephew, Mr. Balfour, and when reception committees feel that they cannot do better, they are apt not to do quite so well. Lord Salisbury, too, has a little more sense of responsibility than the younger politician, and although he might say in so many words that he agreed entirely with what Mr. Balfour said at Easter, he felt himself obliged also to warn his Orange hearers that "they must not show their strength by violence or riot, or in any way that would prejudice English opinion against them." He spoke, too, under another disadvantage. Since his great speech at Newport in 1885, in which he expressed the wish that a union between England and Ireland analogous to that between Austria and Hungary were practicable, it has been certain that he is not in his heart opposed to the principle of Home Rule for Ireland, and that it is only Mr. Gladstone's scheme for the new union to which he is opposed. Believing that Mr. Gladstone's is an impracticable scheme, he is right in opposing it with all his strength, but the effect of his opposition is weakened by his ever having expressed the wish for a practicable scheme. As regards Lord Salisbury's great speech in the Ulster Hall, Belfast, the *Times* says:

Lord Salisbury does not share the hopes of those who fancy that Mr. Gladstone's Bill will be destroyed in Committee of the House of Commons. He thinks that the forces which have given Mr. Gladstone his majority will control its centrifugal tendencies to the last. The dread of dissipation into infinite space the moment a general election takes place, and the unquenchable hope of the various fractions that each may have the privilege of squeezing the "universal yelder" into the concession of its own peculiar fad, will suffice, Lord Salisbury believes, to bind the items together to the end. When, however, the army of the Government, which fights with desperation because it fights "with a halter round its neck," has done its worst, the work of the Opposition in the country will have accomplished its object. Time, as Lord Salisbury says, is indeed working with them, although not in the sense asserted by their rivals. The long series of amendments to the Bill which have been brought forward, and which will have to be discussed, are forcing upon the attention of the British electorate the incorrigible character of the measure itself, and affording them the opportunity they need to ponder upon and assimilate its meaning. By the time that the Bill reaches the House of Lords a sufficient knowledge of its contents will have filtered down into the minds of the constituencies to ensure that they will judge it aright.

While the following is the *Westminster Gazette's* criticism:—

What has happened to Lord Salisbury? Something or other—the crossing from Stranraer perhaps, or the recent disturbance at Belfast—must have sobered him greatly; for with the exception of one or two passages and phrases, his speech yesterday was in an unusually subdued strain. The Home Rule Bill, it is true, was described as "imbecile," "intolerable," "crazy," and "accursed," and its author as "insane." It is true also that in the course of his speech Lord Salisbury made a most violent attack on Archbishop Walsh: but these indications were of a casual kind, and the general tone of the speech was decidedly moderate. Perhaps Lord Salisbury felt, now that Lord Randolph

Churchill has taken the field, that any competition in violent language would be undignified and useless. But whatever the cause, the fact of the ex-Premier's moderation is remarkable. Not only did he himself abstain from instigating to violence, but he even dissuaded his audience from committing it. "Let me beg you," he said, "to economise your strength. Do not show it by any violence or riot. During the whole of this constitutional struggle, which may be long, you must carefully avoid anything which will prejudice English opinion against you or which will allow your enemies in England to calumniate you. That is a very necessary caution." Very necessary, indeed, in view of recent occurrences in Belfast; but considering the constructive incitations to violence from Lord Salisbury himself whereby those scenes had been preceded, we find something characteristically cynical in his present caution.

Turning from the tone of the speech to its general argument we are confronted at once with the New Separatism in its most extreme form. Lord Salisbury's contention is that the rejection of the Home Rule Bill by the House of Lords will be justified and final because it will have the approval of England and Ulster:—"By the working of the Constitution the House of Lords represents the overwhelming opinion of England, and almost the unanimous opinion of the Loyalists of Ireland, and is overborne by the other part of Ireland, and by the Celtic fringe which surrounds the western side of Great Britain, so that now resistance of the House of Lords means the resistance of England and Ulster. Do you imagine that, as long as England and Ulster retain their present views and resist Home Rule, the House of Lords is likely to be frightened by Mr. Justin McCarthy's agitation." This is a most interesting passage, for it presents an entirely new theory of the function of the Lords.

Whether Lord Salisbury was wise in saying openly that the amendments moved by the Opposition to the Home Rule Bill were not intended to amend it, which was a hopeless task, may be doubted. This moving of amendments for the sake of obstruction or, as Lord Salisbury put it, that the real nature of the changes proposed might be brought home to the British public, had already made several Unionist members discontented, and they had begun to absent themselves from divisions. The *Times*, in order to recall them to a sense of their duty, had begun to publish a list of these recreants; as to which the *Westminster Gazette* rather amusingly writes:—

The *Times*, like a College Dean wiggling undergraduates for "cutting chapels" or excursions to town, has been reading a lecture to Unionist members who have absented themselves from divisions on the Home Rule Bill. This morning we have the wiggled ones, cap in hand, beginning with one accord to make excuse. This one had had a fall—his shoulder was positively painful—even the Whips had noticed it. That one (like the unskilled type of undergraduate who combines the Deceased Step-Uncle with his Sister's Wedding) has not only been ill himself, but had relations ill too, to say nothing of other "engagements in the country." The tutorial *Times*, however, remains like the college authority in the story, who shook his head over the pretext of a distant relative's funeral: "I could have wished, sir, it had been a nearer connection." Poor Mr. Tankerville Chamberlayne, M.P., "entirely disagrees" with the idea of putting on the screw by publishing a periodical black-list of absentees, "unless (he pleads) you give explanations." A parlous task! We would suggest the adoption of Mr. Booth's method of classifying people by the Causes which Led to their becoming Paupers: "A" indicating the deceased step-uncle, "b" the sprained shoulder, "Ab" the combination of these two, &c., &c. And all the time "our national existence is at stake!"

It is interesting to note, by the way, that one result of the *Times's* complaints is to provide us with another sidelight on the *malafides* of the Unionist amendments. After the preliminary skirmishing about his own and his relations' health, one of these Unionist members screws up courage and blurts out that one reason why he has not voted for the

party amendments was that they were hosh. "Which should he then do? he asks, 'Vote dishonestly for the amendment, vote against it and so increase the Government majority, or abstain from voting?' He chose the last alternative. The one preferred by Mr. Plunket, recommended by Mr. Balfour, and stamped as the official programme, is the one which to this ingenuous Unionist appears frankly "dishonest." Note also Lord Randolph Churchill's confession at Bolton that the Unionist amendments are not *bona fide*:—"You must recollect, and I think you will agree with the statement, that we do not wish, we do not desire, to carry any amendments to this Bill in the House of Commons." We trust the Government is filing these things. They will be useful when the Opposition begins to pretend that legitimate criticism is being curtailed.

The confession that the Opposition's amendments are not *bona fide* is a justification for Mr. Gladstone's resolution to report the Bill by the 27th inst., but it is ominous that this resolution was only carried by a majority of thirty-two.

A good deal is made in some of the papers of the hissing of Mr. Gladstone when he was a guest of the Prince of Wales at the Imperial Institute; but we gather that it was partly due to the *buffet* three hundred yards long at which free drinks were provided for all who came, while one paper says that it was "confined to a comparatively insignificant proportion of the vast crowd of guests."

Lord Randolph Churchill in a letter to the *Times* mentions that he got involved in, and had to cross, the Home Rule Demonstration on its way to Hyde Park, but though he was recognised and addressed by name, he was treated with perfect courtesy, and he says:—

"I think that my experience may teach some of us useful lessons. In the first place, it is not necessary or particularly advantageous or becoming to hoot or single out for peculiar execration in public ceremonies any opponent, no matter what party he may belong to or what position he may occupy. We British people engaged in this struggle may fight it out in a manner perfectly consistent with fairly peaceful relations, though we differ among each other. This allusion will be understood without further explanation."

There is not much foreign news in the papers. In France perfidious Albion is being accused of landing arms and ammunition for the Hovas in Madagascar from a mythical steamer, the *Wooler*, while in Siam we are supposed to be backing-up the Siamese, but we are used to these unfounded accusations; and as we see the hand of Russia or France in every movement against ourselves, the French feeling is not altogether unnatural.

The *Westminster Budget* still maintains its superiority, and its issue this week is an uncommonly good one. The *St. James's* has as a frontispiece a picture of the Prince of Wales's new yacht, the *Britannia*, which has the ugliest bow ever put on a yacht. The *Pall Mall's* frontispiece is a hideous picture of its new premises; but there is a good caricature of Lord Salisbury "On the War Path," and two excellent photographs of the royalties who are to be married on Thursday. The two full-page pictures of "Crossing the Street" are very taking.

The *Economist* shows that the English rural labourer is not so badly off after all, and it thinks that his wisest friends "are those who are willing to 'wait a little' and to allow him to get the full benefit of those economic laws which have already proved so beneficial." Under the heading "Mors of the Panama Scandal" it says:—

The Panama scandal is about to be reopened by a claim put forward by the official liquidator for the restitution of sums received by different persons as members of a syndicate for underwriting the loan of 1888. It may be remembered that many Senators, Deputies, and others who were proved to have received money from Baron Reinach, pretended that

Hall as a token of the esteem in which he was universally held.

The famine in Shansi is the subject of a good deal of talk in the tea-houses in the city just now. What with a long drought first and then floods, the people of the province appear to be passing through very hard times, many deaths daily occurring from starvation. Some of the philanthropic Fukienese, resident in Foochow, are making appeals to the wealthy of the port to subscribe for the relief of the sufferers.

Everything so far has gone in favour of the growing rice, and the crop is expected to be a good one.

At present the stocks of rice are not what they should be, and we understand that the Grain Commissioner has ordered a further supply from the North, which H. E. intends to let the poor have at a low price.

HANKOW.

(FROM OUR TEA CORRESPONDENT.)

Since the date of our last there is very little change to report; demand for common tea abated somewhat amongst Russian buyers during the past week, but has since revived, prices are now somewhat lower but as quality has declined very little better value is obtained.

Arrivals of first crop tea have now almost ceased, closing about ten per cent. more than last season. Of second crop Kiukiang Teas only a few Ningchows have been shown, of these a few may be preferable to last season's being less dry, but the balance seems wanting in leaf as well as in liquor. No Keemuns have yet been offered. Hankow second crops are distinctly worse than last season.

Settlements: The estimate for London and America to date is 60,000 $\frac{1}{2}$ -chests less than last season, for Russia 80,000 $\frac{1}{2}$ -chests in excess.

Stock of Kiukiang Tea, including second crop is now only 17,000 $\frac{1}{2}$ -chests; for these natives are asking exorbitant prices. Of Hankow kinds some 80,000 $\frac{1}{2}$ -chests are still on offer; as common tea these seem to be very good, but being mostly first packs holders still seem to think they are fine teas and accordingly are asking equivalent rates.

Supply of second crops are coming in very slowly, and as first arrivals are said to lose money it is possible that the Hankow kinds may not reach last year's total. Kiukiang kinds seem likely not to exceed 30,000 $\frac{1}{2}$ -chests.

1893 Settlements. Stock.			
	$\frac{1}{2}$ -chests.	$\frac{1}{2}$ -chests.	$\frac{1}{2}$ -chests.
Hankow tea 1st crop	520,524	457,249	80,261
2nd "	16,986		
K'kiang tea 1st crop	246,257	235,947	17,972
2nd "	7,662		
	791,429	693,196	98,233
1892			
	$\frac{1}{2}$ -chests.	$\frac{1}{2}$ -chests.	$\frac{1}{2}$ -chests.
Hankow tea 1st crop	480,690	459,732	48,273
2nd "	27,315		
K'kiang tea 1st crop	234,034	208,111	36,184
2nd "	10,261		
	752,300	667,843	84,457

Settlements:— 1893.			
	Hankow Tea	Kiukiang Tea	Total
	$\frac{1}{2}$ -chests	$\frac{1}{2}$ -chests	$\frac{1}{2}$ -chests
Russian	385,315	123,040	508,355
English	70,228	110,215	180,483
	455,543	233,295	688,838
1892			
	$\frac{1}{2}$ -chests	$\frac{1}{2}$ -chests	$\frac{1}{2}$ -chests
Russian	316,076	107,750	423,826
English	143,636	100,189	243,845
	459,732	207,939	667,671

Quotations.

Freight £2.15.0. Exchange 3/11 $\frac{1}{2}$.	
Tls.	
Ningchow	10.00 a 30.00 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ a 1/2 $\frac{1}{2}$
2nd crop	14.25 a 20.00 8 a 10
Keemuns	17.50 a 20.00 9 a 10
Oonfaa	9.25 a 16.50 6 a 8 $\frac{1}{2}$
Oopack—	
Sungyong	10.00 a 12.50 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ a 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Y. L. Toong	9.75 a 18.00 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ a 9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Tongsan	10.00 a 13.50 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ a 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Kokew	9.00 a 11.00 6 a 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Nipkarsee	9.00 a 10.70 6 a 6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Shangtaam	8.25 a 8.50 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ a 6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Oonams—	
Cheong Sow Kai	10.50 a 17.00 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ a 9
Pingkong & Low Yong	9.00 a 10.50 6 a 6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Ly-ling	9.25 a 10.00 6 a 6 $\frac{1}{2}$

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE MURDER OF THE SWEDISH MISSIONARIES.

I have just sent you a telegram with the sad news of the murder of the Rev. Messrs. Wickholm and Johansen, two Swedish Missionaries belonging to Wuchang, in an anti-foreign riot at Sungpu on Saturday, and now in a hurried note send you the particulars as far as they can be gathered at present.

THE SCENE OF THE CRIME.

Sungpu is a market town in the district of Matsinhien, sixty miles from here on the great road leading to Peking. It is a place of considerable trade; being near the borders of Honan many of the merchants of that province go to it instead of to Hankow. The inhabitants, who number about 20,000, are largely natives of other places, and being strangers themselves have always been very friendly to strangers. Sungpu indeed has always had the good word of the foreigners who have frequently visited it.

THE HOSTILE GENTRY.

A few months ago the Swedish mission rented a native house in one of the back streets, hoping in time to settle down and carry on work there. They got on with the people remarkably well, but after a time found that certain gentry and bad characters were getting up an agitation against them. Some of the people concerned in renting them the house were seized and put in prison at Matsin and very severely beaten. In connection with this the matter was brought before Mr. Joh. Thyen, who is in charge of Swedish interests at this port, and by him represented to the Taotai, with the result that the imprisoned men were set free, and the Matsin magistrate was to see to it that there would be no further trouble.

THE MURDERS DECIDED ON.

The next news they got, however, was to the effect that at a great feast and procession on Saturday the 1st instant, the foreigners were to be killed. This information reached the two murdered gentlemen who were then staying there, and the Consul in Hankow at the same time. The Consul's information came from the Taotai with the request that he, the Consul, should therefore order the missionaries to withdraw. This the Consul, being informed by the missionaries themselves that all was quiet, and that they anticipated no danger, declined to do.

BEGINNING THE MISCHIEF.

The 1st instant was Saturday, but the feast began on the previous Wednesday when many thousands of the country people were gathered into the town. Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday large numbers of people visited the missionaries' house, but all kept quiet, and when Saturday morning came they fondly hoped they had outlived another false alarm. Alas, early in the day a crowd began to assemble evidently bent on mischief. They began by stoning, and then, as their courage rose, attempted

to rush the house. Finding it no longer tenable, the missionaries made their way into the house of their landlord adjoining, and saw their own instantly looted and everything smashed. The landlord's house was next attacked, so they climbed over a back wall and into another house where they found refuge for a time in a garret. They were found out here also, and ultimately driven out of the garret on to the roof. The whole forenoon had passed in this way, and it was now two o'clock, the hour of their appearance and the end. As soon as they were seen on the roof, a great shout went up from the mob, and four men armed with iron rods sprang up after them. The missionaries, followed by these, and pelted with stones and tiles from every side, retreated along about a score of houses when they could get no further, so they leaped into the road and were immediately despatched.

A TERRIBLE SCENE.

The mob sprang on them, pierced them with their spiked carrying poles, pounded them with hoes, battered in their skulls, stripped every rag of clothing off them; in mere wanton wickedness inflicted nameless barbarities on their now dead and senseless bodies. Our informant saw them lying stark and battered in the Sungpu street with no one to care for them save the native dogs.

THE TASTE OF BLOOD.

As soon as the foreigners were killed, a rush was made to find the natives associated with them, most of whom, however, escaped, but one was caught and very badly beaten. He only escaped death through being a Sungpu man and several people therefore taking his part. When there was no more killing to be done, the missionaries' house was set on fire and that and the one adjoining burned to the ground. The above particulars have been gathered from one of the servants who escaped, and made his way as fast as he could to Hankow.

THE ANTI-FOREIGN FEELING.

I have no time just now to comment on the above, but I would point out that the anti-foreign feeling created by the Chou Han propaganda proves to have done unspeakable mischief in all parts of Central China. It was only by rare good fortune that the bicyclist Mr. Lenz escaped with his life from an unprovoked attack. On their last journey our veteran missionary Dr. Griffith John with Dr. Gillison were in a similar way attacked by country people with their hoes and pikes, and had a very providential escape from death. Yet Chou Han has never yet been punished in any way. None of the parties concerned in the two Ichang riots were ever punished, and even the man who in the last one was caught by the foreigners and handed over to justice was dismissed free and unrebuked. All this has but one meaning and can tend to but one end.

WHERE WERE THE AUTHORITIES?

But where were the Sungpu authorities? Although the danger to the foreigners was according to themselves so great and imminent, they never did anything to ward it off. At Chiting, only 8 li away, was a military force and the *yamen* of the Huangchow fu sub-prefect, a great official in these parts, but no steps were taken to prevent trouble. There is a small military official located at Sungpu with a few soldiers, and he turned out but could do nothing. The crowd attacked him early and drove him from the field.

RECOVERING THE BODIES.

The first thing to be done now is to bring the bodies in. I hear the Ho family, in whose vicinity this dreadful murder was perpetrated, have covered them with mats and are taking charge of them. The street people were friendly throughout. The rioters came from certain villages from ten to fifteen li away, and the real attacking parties were hired cut-throats. A party

leaves to-night to bring the bodies in. I shall join it and on my return hope to be able to send you fuller particulars.

3rd July.

NOTES FROM SHENSI.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

FAILURE OF CROPS.

The spring crops have just been gathered, they have been a miserable failure. The wheat promised well in the early spring, but continuous drought when rain was most needed withered everything. Official relief was given in some three counties, immediately before harvest, so great was the destitution. Several schemes have been tried with a view to improving the Province and preventing, if possible, the many and ever-recurring calamities.

UNSUCCESSFUL REMEDIES.

1.—*Industries*:—The Governor-General bought plant and erected suitable buildings, at an enormous cost, for establishing a factory to utilise the wool so extensively exported from Kansu. Several foreigners were employed under the oversight of an official. Whatever the cause, the tall chimney and foreign buildings with their plant, witness to the entire failure of the project.

2.—Another scheme was to cut a canal—Lesseps-like—so as to connect the head waters of the Yellow River with those of the 涇河. A steam dredger was purchased, other extensive preparations made. Several li of excavated channel form the only visible result. This navigation scheme also failed.

3.—Another idea was embodied in an attempt to bifurcate the stream of the 涇河 so as to utilise the water for irrigation. After many lives had been sacrificed and much money spent, this too failed.

THEIR LESSONS.

These failures bear witness to two facts: (1)—That even in the far interior of this fossilised country, there are men not unwilling to expend monies on public good. (2)—That ignorance of even the most rudimentary principles of science and resources of nature, is China's most fatal foe as it is the fruitful parent of her greatest curses.

OTHER CALAMITIES.

Yet there are calamities beyond the control of enlightened man. Two weeks ago in the country of 涇陽 hail-stones as large as hen's eggs fell in fatal torrents. In one half-hour several children were battered to death, and the ripe crops completely destroyed over an area of several miles. Adjoining the same district came an invasion of locusts which completely relieved the farmers of the privilege of reaping their ripening harvest. In this county drought has proved no less a scourge. For six months, January-June, rain has fallen on only eight days. During the same period, 1890, rain fell at Greenwich on 83 days—a comparison shows the vast difference. The showers too were very gentle, light, totally insufficient.

WOLVES.

Wolves are again on the prowl. Last year they carried off men, women, children, as many as 14 in 10 days in this immediate neighbourhood. Two days ago at noon a wolf carried off a girl of nine years from the doorstep while the parents were at worship. Last night another marched boldly through a village, into a house. He pounced upon a lad of eleven who was recovered, minus his cloak, from the clutches of the brute. I have seen an expedition organised with the most fearless daring. A man entered a den with only a dagger in his hand. The mother wolf, to protect her cubs, sprang right at his face. The poor fellow was fortunately rescued but severely wounded. Unfortunately the

old "blunderbusses" owned by the people are about as dangerous to the bearer as to the wolves. Rewards have been offered and occasionally a wolf is felled; but there is no means of exterminating their fertile hordes.

PRACTICAL CHRISTIANITY.

I wonder whether there are those, who, disbelieving in ordinary and orthodox missionary methods, would be willing to contribute to a Scientific Social Scheme for the benefit of these benighted and destitute peasantry? I should rejoice to see the formation of a Society that would organise the benevolence of those outside present missionary circles, willing to assist in removing the causes of famine, pestilence, destitution, ignorance—to prevent is easier, cheaper, in every way better than to relieve a famine. Would that all the taels—amounting to thousands of pounds—that have been spent in famine relief, had been wisely spent in one of a hundred ameliorating schemes for the permanent help of thousands who pass benighted, sorrow-stricken, from their cradle to their grave! "What is the use of preaching the gospel to men whose whole attention is concentrated upon a mad, desperate struggle to keep themselves alive. You might as well give a tract to a shipwrecked sailor who is battling with the surf which has drowned his comrades, and threatens to drown him. . . . He cannot hear you any more than a man whose head is under water can listen to a sermon." I write these words and ponder their meaning in a village with eleven families. Their poverty is such as this: There is not a single door or window in any dwelling house—the gaps there are, but no frames. Within there is not any article of ordinary furniture—chairs, tables, etc.; a mud bed, straw mats, and a few millet stalk stools comprise the furnishings. Their food consists of wild herbs—weeds a well-fed horse would disdain—with sometimes a sprinkling of millet (高粱). The wheat just garnered is less than the quantity of the seed sown from which it sprang. Nevertheless they are being dunned for taxes they cannot raise and debts they cannot pay. For three years in succession there has been practically famine, i.e., an insufficient supply of food. These facts are but the dark background to darker details which I cannot relate. Now how would a Social Scheme save these people—over 60 in number? An expenditure of £14.10.0 would supply each family with a "Warner's cast-iron lift pump." That would effectually irrigate their land and so permanently relieve their distress. This is a solitary concrete example of one of a thousand ways in which Christian benevolence could prevent famine. More: any Social Scheme would shut the mouths of many calumniators as it would open the hearts of others. China needs means—not more missionaries nor money—God's means for saving soul and body.

THE FRONTIER QUESTION.

In official circles there are the most conflicting reports respecting Russia's action on the frontier. Some say she has taken many cities and means to occupy Tibet. About 40 cart-loads of foreign rifles passed Hsian at the end of May, en route for the West. Trains of camels carry ammunition. Special commissioners from Peking are superintending transports and some veteran officials have gone to the frontier. What does it all mean? War and a change of government, say the multitude.

1st June.

TO CURE SKIN DISEASES.—Sulpholine Lotion quickly drives away Eruptions, Pimples, Blisters, Redness, Eczema, Acne, Disfigurements, Roughness and Scurf, &c., leaving a clear, spotless Skin and beautiful Complexion. Sulpholine is a necessity for the Skin, especially in hot climates. Made in London. Sold everywhere. (2)

TIENTSIN.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

HEAVY RAINS.

The "rainy season" began "with a vengeance" on Monday, the 26th. It rained most of the afternoon and a good part of the night, and much of the time very heavily. Over seven inches of water fell during the time. We hear that much injury was done to the mud houses all about the city. From different directions information is also brought that the wheat has been greatly injured by this rain coming before much of it is fully ripe, and that much of it is being pulled up out of several inches of water in order to save it. The growth of the wheat had been unusually fine on account of the increased frequency of spring showers over ordinary years, but this heavier growth seems to have retarded its ripening, and this rain has caught it a little too soon. Generally it is ready for the threshing by this time. The loss will be very considerable, and a great disappointment to the hopes of those who have not had a good crop for three or four years. It has cleared off hot and sultry after the rain, but we cannot expect to have more than a few days of pleasant weather at a time now till the rains are finished. All the depressions over the plain are filled to overflowing, and it would be a blessing if no more rain fell for at least ten days.

THE JEHHO TROUBLE.

Nothing more has been heard of the insurrectionary movement near Jehho to which reference was made in my last. No rumour of it appears to have got abroad among the Chinese, which leads to the conclusion that it is of no significance whatever, or else that every effort is being made to prevent its being known among the common people. Probably it is only a local quarrel of slight proportions.

THE STATE OF BUSINESS.

For some two months or more there has been a gradual decrease in the number of cash received for the tael in the cash shops. One cause given is the withdrawal of cash in the purchase of grain, which is perhaps as good a reason as any; but scarcely seems to meet the case satisfactorily. All is quiet about us, and business among the Chinese appears to be about as usual at this season.

28th June.

THE UNITED STATES.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

THE GEARY ACT

has been pronounced constitutional, much to the surprise of almost everybody. It is even said that the Chinese Minister received an intimation from the Department of State that the Supreme Court of the United States would smooth all friction between the two nations, by declaring the Act unconstitutional. Be this as it may, there is no doubt that the President, the Secretary of State and the Attorney General were very confident that such a decision would be rendered. The order of the President that no arrests should be made pending the decision of the Court is in harmony with this belief.

IS IT FINAL?

The decision affirming the constitutionality of the Act was not rendered without the dissent of three of the ablest members of the Court. It is therefore impossible to regard the decision as final. When such men as Chief-Justice Fuller and Justice Field refuse their concurrence in a decision involving important points of constitutional law, one can scarcely expect even the decision of the highest tribunal of the land without grave doubts of its soundness.

COST OF DEPORTATION.

The deportation of the Chinese under the law will not be carried out to any great extent, however, at least not at present, for, as has been indicated in these columns long since, there is not money enough available for the purpose. Of the 110,000 Chinese in the country only 4,000 have registered. About \$25,000 is available to send the remainder who have not registered, and who may be arrested and condemned to be deported, home to China. The cost of deportation is estimated at about \$35 for each person, and the total sum required to enforce the Geary Act is about \$6,000,000. But these estimates may prove to be very incorrect. In the case of two inoffensive Chinese in New York city found to be illegally residing in the country it actually cost this government \$924 to send them home.

ANOTHER ELEMENT,

however, is sure to come into the question of Chinese deportation. It has scarcely been heard of yet, but if the Geary Act, or the provisions of an earlier law which it is now the duty of the Administration to enforce, requiring that all Chinese who are not legally entitled to residence in the country should be deported, are actually put in force, there will come a wail and strong protests from the Pacific slope—the very home of all recent legislation adverse to the Chinese. Possibly too, it may dawn upon the intellects of some individuals in Congress who are responsible for the Geary and other exclusion laws, that it is wiser to regard the true interests of the State of California than the noisy clamour of the San Francisco hoodlums. There was a time, not many years since, when the development and prosperity of California were rendered possible only by the labour of Chinese. When Mr. Burlingame promised employment for a million Chinese on the Pacific coast, it was not without a knowledge of the actual conditions and needs of the country. About the same time was heard the complaint all through the agricultural sections of the State, of the insufficiency of labour, and while the hoodlums were crying out against "Chinese cheap labour," the farmers recognised the fact, that "only higher wages," which they were willing to pay, "would bring the Chinese over."

CALIFORNIA'S DIFFICULTY.

Is the case different to-day? If the Treasury Department had the means, as it has the authority to deport the unregistered Chinese of California, the effect of such action would be the destruction or ruin of some of the most important agricultural interests of the State. In the vineyards and fruit growing sections of the State, Chinese labour is superior to any other, and the compensation the Chinese demand and receive is equal to that of the white labourer. If the Chinese government would retaliate against our unjust treatment of its people, it need do no more than induce its subjects to leave the State of California. Not only would the loss of their labour be keenly felt, but they would carry away with them a round \$50,000,000 in gold.

HAWAII.

We hear but little just now about Hawaiian annexation, and it is difficult to make out the attitude of the President concerning this important subject. The public feeling seems rather to favour it. Perhaps Mr. Blount was not the right kind of a man to be sent abroad on a diplomatic mission. At all events he does not appear to have made a favourable impression at Honolulu, and the value of his observations may be somewhat impaired by the unfortunate circumstances of his environment. The planters of the islands, headed by Mr. Claus Spreckels, have apparently changed about and become opposed to annexation. This is because of a feeling of uncertainty as to the results of new

tariff legislation, which may not be in their interest as sugar producers, and partly also from a fear that the Chinese exclusion law would be applied on the island and thus deprive them of cheap and efficient labourers.

THE SUNDAY QUESTION.

The World's Fair was opened on Sunday for the first time this week. The question of Sunday opening has engaged the attention of the National Commission and the Exposition officers for several weeks. It appears to your correspondent that a strict regard to the Act of Congress would require that the gates should be closed on Sundays, but I have no idea that they will be closed in obedience thereto, for the highest legal talent has been engaged in proving the Act to be without force. But the battle is not yet won. It has served to show, however, that many of the good people of the world still think that all the other people should submit to be governed by their consciences and religious notions. Three prominent Baptist clergymen of this city, representing their church denomination in the World's Fair Auxiliary, formally withdrew last week because they believed the Fair would be opened on Sunday. The Auxiliary Congresses are designed to aid in the diffusion of knowledge, by bringing together persons of eminence from all countries, for an interchange of views and discussions. They have only the most remote connection with the Exposition, and the meetings are held six miles from the Fair grounds. Such action by prominent clergymen is too silly to be seriously discussed, but it smacks of the spirit which calls to mind the Blue Laws of a past generation. It is strange to think of all this controversy over Sunday-observance and then to consider that in ten or at least a score of years from now, the world will have outgrown its Puritanical ideas of a holy Sabbath day.

FINANCIAL DEPRESSION.

Extreme financial depression exists in the country. Many failures are reported among business men of high standing and banks are shaky. The latest important failure reported is that of Ex-Secretary of the Treasury Charles Foster, whose liabilities may amount to a million dollars. A great stringency is felt in the money market, due partly to the want of confidence in the future financial management of the currency, which has caused the withdrawal of deposits from banks to safe deposit vaults. It was told me last evening by a well-informed business man, that the deposit vaults of this city contain more cash than the entire deposits held by the banks.

Chicago, 30th May.

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTE.

(Specially translated for the North-China Herald.)

16th May.

DECREE.

Let Chang Yung-t'ing be appointed to the Brigadier-Generalship of the Liangchou Military Circuit of Kansu. Respect this!

CHIHLI DIVISION OF THE GRAND CANAL.

Li Hung-chang, Viceroy of Chihli, forwards his annual report on the river works of the Grand Canal, and states that the Intendant of the Yungting river conservancy, Wan Pei-ying, reported that in anticipation of the breaking up of the ice in the Yungting river, which commenced on the 9th of March last, raising the mean depth from seven to eight feet to twelve and thirteen feet, he made every preparation for the consequent rush of the waters of that river into the junction of the

Grand Canal. He used in some cases bags of sand and earth to stop the gaps, and thus by prompt forethought changed what would have been a source of danger into one of safety, completing all the works by the 9th of April, when the ice having all melted, the average mean depth of eight feet five inches was regained.—Noted.

SHANTUNG DIVISION OF THE YELLOW RIVER.

Fu Jun, Governor of Shantung, sends his usual annual report on the Yellow River embankments under his jurisdiction, since the commencement of the warm weather, after the breaking up of the ice in the river. Every preparation against possible bursting of the banks by the downward rush of the freshets was made under the personal superintendence of the memorialist himself, and thanks to the energy and prompt obedience of his subordinates on the river works, no damages are reported.—Noted.

17th May.

THE COURT.

To-morrow morning after His Imperial Majesty shall have performed sacrificial worship at the temples, he will return to the Palace to grant audience to the Ministers of the Court, after which His Majesty intends to go to I-ho Park to pay his respects to H.I.M. the Empress Dowager, and then return back to the Palace.

IMPERIAL DECREES.

1.—Let the three Chehsien mentioned in Wu Ta-ch'eng, the Governor of Hunan's, memorial as being very capable and energetic, as well as honest in their duties as district magistrates, be informed of the Imperial approval, and let them also be exhorted to keep on as they have done and not to commence well and end badly. And let also the four district magistrates and assistant magistrates mentioned in the same memorial be forthwith disgraced and stripped of their rank for their bad government of the people under them, as a mark of Imperial displeasure and as a warning to others. Respect this!

2.—Let Ju-Lin be appointed Taotai of the Tsochiang Intendancy in Kuangsi. Respect this!

A DISHONEST OFFICIAL.

Chang Hsi, Governor of Shansi, reports a dishonest Superintendent of Likin, an expectant Prefect of the name of Wang Chao-huai, for appropriating certain funds for his own private ends to the detriment of the revenue, and asks that the Imperial mandate may be issued for his immediate degradation and that he may be stripped of his rank as a warning to other officials. Respect—Allowed.

CHANGES AMONG THE KIANGSI HIGH AUTHORITIES.

T'è Hsing, Governor of Kiangsi, reports that he has turned over, in obedience to the Imperial commands, the seals of his office to the acting Governor Fang Ju-i, in order to enable the memorialist to go up to Peking for his audience, and that the post of the Provincial Treasurership vacated by Fang Ju-i had been given to the Provincial Judge Fu Yü, whose place again has been taken by the Salt Intendant.

18th May.

THE PESCADORES.

The Governor-General of the Min-Ch'eh provinces, T'an Chung-lin, reports the death of the mother of Wu Hung-lu, Brigadier-General of the Pescadore Islands, on the 4th of April last at her home in Hóféi, Anhui, and the consequent retirement into mourning of Major-General Wu Hung-lu, and requests that his successor may be appointed to what is considered to be one of the most important commands in Fukien province. In the meanwhile memorialist in conjunction with Shao Yü-lien, Governor of Formosa, has appointed General Wang Chih-seng to be acting Brigadier-General

of the Pescadores awaiting His Majesty's appointment.

CONCEE OF A NEWLY APPOINTED TAOTAI.

Jui Lin, the newly appointed Taotai of the Tso Chiang Intendancy in Kuangsi gives thanks for the Imperial Grace and in making his *congee* asks for instructions.

19th May.

IMPERIAL DECREES.

1.—Let Kuei-hêng who is on sick leave be allowed one month's extra leave of absence, and let Hui Ta-pu act for him in his duties of President of the Board of Punishments. Respect this!

2.—Let Kuei-hêng's post of Lieutenant-General of the Mongolian Bordered White Banner be filled *pro tem.* by Lin Shu whose own post of Lieutenant-General of the Mongolian Blue Banner will be filled during the interim by Chai Ying. Respect this!

TREASURE FROM FUKIEN.

T'ian Chung-lin, Governor-General of Min-Chêh, reports that he sent up on the 2nd of April last four deputies with the first instalment of Tls. 200,000 for the payment of salaries of Peking officials, troops, bannermen, and pay of troops in the North-eastern provinces, out of the Tls. 440,000 extra funds he was ordered to send up to Peking by the Board of Revenue last year. As soon as this amount has been received by the Board, the memorialist will send up the next instalment. *Rescript:—Let the Board concerned take note.*

20th May.

ILLNESS OF A MONGOL PRINCE.

Jung Tê, Military Governor, and the Gioro Ch'ung Huan, Assistant Military Governor, of Uliasutai report the serious illness of the Mongolian Prince of the First Order Tukusewarh, Captain-General of the Sannoin tribe of Khalkhas. Some time ago Prince Tukusewarh was compelled to retire owing to the death of the Princess-Dowager his mother, and obtained the Imperial consent to allow his place to be taken, during the interval of mourning, by the Deputy Captain-General of the tribe, the Mongol Prince of the Second Order Ts'uisuluntapu, while again this Prince's place was to be taken *pro tem.* by a noble of the 4th grade, Lupushuang-pupala, Adjutant of the tribe, and chief of one of the military colonies on the Russian frontier. But now, just as Prince Tukusewarh's period of mourning has expired, he has been suddenly attacked by rheumatic fever, with accompanying pains in the sides and a general state of nervous debility, so that he is unable to resume the duties of his post, and requests the memorialists to pray for the Imperial Grace and allow him the usual two months' leave of absence to attend to his illness. The memorialists at once sent one of their *bitskeshis* (clerks) Akotan, to ascertain privately the genuineness of the illness, and finding that Prince Tukusewarh is really suffering from a serious complaint, they now pray that the Prince's prayer may be granted and the same order of things be continued since the time he retired into mourning.—*Rescript: Let the proper yamen (Mongolian Superintendency) take note.*

A MILITARY TOUR OF INSPECTION.

Jung Tê, Military Governor of Uliasutai, informs the Throne that according to precedent he is going to make the usual triennial tour of inspection over the military colonies, posts, post-road stations, camel and horse pastures within his jurisdiction. This is the first time since his arrival at his post that he has made such an inspection, which he should have done immediately he had taken over the seals of office from his predecessor. He, however, had been excused from doing so by Imperial grace, first, because it was during the depths of winter in 1891 when he came to Uliasutai, and secondly in 1892 because there was a

drought and famine, and the camels, cattle, and horses were not fit to be inspected. Nothing intervening this year, the memorialist has made arrangements to start at an early date and will report the results of his tour when he returns to Uliasutai.—*Rescript: Let the Board of War take note.*

21st May.

THE COURT.

H.I.M. will, after having transacted the affairs of State for the day, go to the I-ho Park to-morrow noon to pay his respects to H.I.M. the Dowager Empress.

IMPERIAL DECREES.

1.—Let T'ang Chin-ch'ung and Hsu Chih-ch'ing be appointed Senior and Junior Deputy Supervisors of Instruction (of the heir apparent) respectively. Respect this!

2.—Let T'ang Ts'uen-shêng be appointed Supervising Censor and Keeper of the Seals of the Board of War. Respect this!

3.—Let Fêng Chin-ch'ien be appointed Assistant Censor of the Metropolitan Circuit. Respect this!

Yü Lu, Military Governor of Shingking, reports that the Imperial Ancestral Mausolea at Moukden require to be thoroughly repaired, and prays that We should appoint an auspicious day to commence the work on them. Let the Board of Astronomy select some auspicious day during the fifth moon of this year for the purpose, and We command that the Military Governor of Shingking and the Board of Works do reverently and carefully carry out the necessary repairs, and, furthermore, let the other matters prayed for in Yü Lu's memorial be done as he wishes.—Respect this!

ARMY APPROPRIATION FROM THE KUANGSI LOCAL REVENUES.

Huang Kuei-shêng, Acting-Governor of Kuangsi, reports that the sum of Tls. 40,250, odd, has been taken out at various time during the past year (1892) for urgent expenses connected with the military chest of the Kuangsi troops who have to keep a good watch on the borders, as well as to suppress any risings amongst the wild aboriginal tribes and desperate characters in the interior. These sums were paid out at different times from the provincial exchequer during memorialist's incumbency of the Treasurership; but owing to various reasons he was unable to make out a list of them at the time; this has now been done by the acting Provincial Treasurer Hui Yü-fên, and it is now forwarded for the Sacred Glance.—*Rescript: Let the Board of Revenue take note.*

22nd May.

REWARDS ASKED FOR TRIBUTE RICE OFFICERS.

Sung Chün, Governor of Chêkiang, asks for rewards on behalf of a number of officials commencing from a Taotai in rank down to petty officials of the 9th grade connected with collecting, carrying and delivering the Chêkiang quota of tribute rice for Peking during the year 1892. Every one connected showed commendable energy and promptness in this work and by former precedents should be rewarded by promotion in rank according to their several degrees.—*Rescript: Noted.*

ADDITIONAL WAR JUNKS TO PROTECT THE SEA ROUTE BETWEEN NINGPO AND FOCHOW.

T'ian Chung-lin, Viceroy of Min-Chêh, and Sung Chün, Governor of Chêkiang, jointly request the Imperial sanction for the addition of eight seagoing war junks to reinforce the present strength of the navy detailed to protect the sea route between the two commercial emporiums of the provinces of Chêkiang and Fukien—Ningpo and Fochow. The sea coast line of the Min-Chêh provinces stretches for the length of one thousand several hundred li, and the trading junks continually visit the ports of either province laden

principally with rice and poles. Owing to the recent innumerable piracies committed by pseudo-fishermen, whose boats number several tens of thousands, upon the trading junks running between Ningpo and Fochow who cannot make any speed in sailing, laden as they are with such clumsy and bulky things as poles, the memorialists arranged to send the steam cruisers *Fupo*, *Chenhang*, and *Chingyuan* of the Fochow navy and the *Yuanhai* and *Chaoan* of the Chêkiang fleet to assist the regular seagoing war junks in protecting the sea-route. But notwithstanding stringent orders and the energy of the navy concerned it was impossible to give, with the small force on hand, adequate protection to all the trading junks; hence piracies still continued although in smaller proportion than hitherto. Now along the coast of both provinces there are no less than several tens of ports and havens with islands innumerable, which afford excellent retreats for pirates and their craft. Of the war junks of Fukien since the battle of the Min, at Pagoda Anchorage, only twenty-nine seagoing junks have been left, which with those of Chêkiang bring up the total number to only eighty junks of various sizes. What could these do in policing a thousand and several hundred li of coast, amidst the hundreds of outlets, coves, and ports from whence the several tens of thousands of pirate boats issue upon their prey as they come up and down in a never ceasing line? Hence although the war junks and cruisers patrol the coast day and night they still cannot give entire protection to the traders whose proverbial slowness renders it impossible also for the swift war junks to stay by them. The memorialists then wrote to the Commander-in-chief of Chêkiang, General Fêng Nan-ping, to raise more war junks at Ningpo to reinforce the existing fleet and asked him to make an estimate as to what a squadron of eight large seagoing junks would cost yearly. He chartered a few junks for the purpose, and replied that it would cost at least Tls. 23,000 to pay the sailors and officers of the eight junks proposed by the memorialists. In view therefore, of the existing urgency of affairs memorialists ask the Imperial sanction for the additional junks, the money required yearly to be paid by the *likin* services of both provinces. General Fêng Nan-ping has already bought and equipped two junks which are urgently required, in anticipation of the Imperial approval.—*Rescript: Approved. Let the proper Board take note.*

22nd May.

OPPORTUNE RAIN AT PEKING.

The Governor of Shuntienfu reports that the recent rainfalls in the Metropolitan Prefecture gave a mean depth of over four inches of rain.

MILITARY TOUR OF INSPECTION BY THE GOVERNOR OF HUNAN.

Wu Ta-ch'eng, Governor of Hunan, reports that having made the tour of inspection of the military garrisons and posts in the western portion of Hunan province, he had to return in order to attend to the literary examinations of scholars in the capital of the province, which having done he intends on the 3rd of May to complete his tour of the southern portion of the province.—*Rescript: Noted.*

THE CHIHLI FAMINE FUND.

The Governor-General of Chihli, Li Hung-chang, reports that in addition to the subscriptions received from all sides in aid of the famine sufferers of Chihli last year, the sum of Tls. 100,000 was taken from the Provincial exchequer, and requests that this amount should be debited against the province for that year.—*Rescript: Let the Board of Revenue take note.*

Meetings.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

At a Meeting of the Council held in the Board Room, No. 23, Kiangse Road, Shanghai, on Tuesday, the 27th June, 1893, at 4 o'clock p.m.

Present.—Messrs. John Macgregor (Chairman), F. Anderson, C. Beurnmann, J. Cooper, J. Graham, D. C. Jansen, D. M. Moses, J. L. Scott, J. Welch, and the Secretary.

The *Summons* calling the meeting is taken as read.

The *Minutes* of the last meeting are read, confirmed, signed by the Chairman and passed for publication.

Cash Statement for the past week is submitted and cheques for sundry accounts are signed.

Return of Prisoners apprehended and police daily reports for the past week are submitted.

Special Meeting of Ratepayers.—The following letter is ordered to be published:—

H.B.M. Consulate-General,
Shanghai, 24th June.

SIR,—I have received from Dr. Stuebel, the Senior Consul, a despatch informing me that the Consular Body have approved the Resolutions passed at the Ratepayers' meeting of the 7th instant.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,
NICHOLAS J. HANNEN.

JOHN MACGREGOR, Esq.,

Chairman, Municipal Council.

Rifle Range.—The following correspondence is submitted, and ordered to be published:—

H.B.M. Consulate-General,
Shanghai, 22nd June, 1893.

SIR,—I beg to enclose copies of two letters which I have received from owners of land registered at this Consulate-General complaining of the Rifle Range as a dangerous nuisance.

I should be glad if you would inform me whether anything can be done to meet the wishes of the Landrenters, and, if not, whether you would be good enough to inform me of the reasons so that I may communicate them to the Landrenters who have addressed me upon the subject.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,
NICHOLAS J. HANNEN.

The CHAIRMAN,

Municipal Council, Shanghai.

Shanghai, 19th June, 1893.

SIR,—We the undersigned British subjects and residents of Shanghai owning land or houses within the settlement and whose lots are registered in H.B.M. Consulate-General beg most respectfully to enter a complaint against the use of the present Rifle Range as a nuisance.

The range extends about 900 yards East and West and when firing is going on all traffic from North and South is stopped, sometimes from 6 a.m. to late in the afternoon, cutting off all approach to our houses and property. Besides the inconvenience to which we are put in not being able to cross the Range to our houses, the shooting is often very erratic and bullets go wide of the Range to the danger of our lives and damage of our property. Bullet marks may be seen on the walls and fences from thirty-five to thirty-eight feet from the range.

We therefore trust that you will kindly call the attention of the Municipal Council to the matter with a view to having the range removed to some suitable place clear of foreign houses and where the surrounding district is not so thickly populated as where it is situated. And we shall ever pray.

Your obedient servants,

(Signed) J. C. GRANT.

JAS. BROWN.

A. R. BOWMAN.

A. BANKER.

A. R. LAISUN.

A. WILSON.

N. J. HANNEN, Esq.,

H.B.M. Consul-General, Shanghai.

Shanghai, 22nd June, 1893.

SIR,—With reference to our complaint against the present Rifle Range as a dangerous nuisance within the Settlement, in accordance with your request we beg to submit the dates at which the respective Petitioners acquired their properties adjoining the Range. Mrs. Laisun in 1892. Claims part of Range. A. R. Bowman in 1886. J. C. Grant in 1891. A. Wilson in 1890. Mrs. Banker in 1892. Jas. Brown in 1892/3.

We would respectfully call your attention to the fact that there are other lots adjoining the Range registered in H.B.M.'s Consulate-General, but the owners' names through absence and other causes have not appeared in our Petition. There are also a number of American citizens who hold land on the Range and have petitioned their Consul to assist them in having the Range removed.

I have, &c.,

(sigd.) J. C. GRANT,
and 5 others.

N. J. HANNEN, Esq.,

H.B.M.'s Consul General, Shanghai.

The Chairman says that a reply has been sent to this letter identical with that sent to the Acting U. S. Consul-General last week on the same subject.

Gas Lighting.—The following correspondence is submitted and ordered to be published:—

Shanghai, 31st May, 1893.

SIR,—As the agreement between the Council and the Shanghai Gas Company for lighting the settlement expires on the 30th June, I am directed to inquire upon what terms, the Gas Company are prepared to make a new contract with the Council.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

R. F. THORBURN,
Secretary.

C. SCHEFFELMANN, Esq.,
Secretary, Shanghai Gas Co.

Shanghai, 17th June, 1893.

SIR,—In reply to your letter of 31st May I am directed to say that this Company are prepared to make a contract for the lighting of the streets by gas for three years from the 1st proximo on the same terms as at present, subject to any reduction in price that the Company may determine upon during that time and that the number of lamps shall not be less than 411 i.e. the present number less the 84 which the Company understand the Council contemplate displacing.

I am further directed to say, that as the Company are desirous to show the Public what can be done in the way of street lighting by the improved methods now available, they request the Council to permit them to make a trial to that end by allowing them to light a section of the Nanking Road, say from the Fohkien Road to the Defence Creek. The Company are confident that the street will be better lighted than it is by the electric lamps and at a less cost. Should however the experiment prove unacceptable to the Public the Company are willing to bear the cost of it and to remove the lamps.

The Company make this request with less hesitation as they cannot now be supposed to be making any attempt to interfere with a competing Company.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

CHR. SCHEFFELMANN,
Secretary Shanghai Gas Co.

R. F. THORBURN, Esq.,

Secretary, Municipal Council.

Shanghai, 28th June.

SIR,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th instant, which has been submitted to the Council, who in reply direct me to say that they are not prepared to make a new contract with the Gas Company for a term of three years from the 1st proximo, but they will be glad to make an agreement for one year from the 1st July, at the same price per lamp as they are now paying subject to any reduction which the Gas Company may determine upon during the year, the number of lamps to be not less than 400. (Four Hundred), and the other conditions of the agreement to remain the same as under the present contract.

The Council desire me to say that after the 30th instant, they intend to discontinue the present arrangement under which they pay the Gas Company at the rate of 25 cents each per month for keeping in order 135 lamps, which ceased to be lighted after the Electric light was introduced into the settlement.

In reply to the Company's application to be allowed to light a portion of the Nanking road, in order to show the public what can be done in the way of street lighting by the improved methods now available, I am directed to say that the Council cannot grant the permission asked for, but they have no objections to the Gas Company lighting, by way of experiment, the portion of the Bubbling Well road, between the Horse Bazaar Bridge, and E-wo Terrace.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

R. F. THORBURN,
Secretary.

C. SCHEFFELMANN, Esq.,

Secretary, Shanghai Gas Co.

Shanghai, 30th June, 1893.

SIR,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th inst. No. 93/279, and in reply I am directed to say that this Company will make an agreement to light the public lamps for one year from the 1st July prox. at the same price and on the same terms as at present, the number of lamps not to be less than 400.

For the advantage of getting a contract for three years, during which time it is more than probable a considerable reduction in the price of gas will be made, this Company were willing to fix a maximum price and to agree to give the Council the benefit of any reduction made during the period; but with a contract for only one year the Company can scarcely be expected to bind themselves to a fixed maximum price and to agree to make a reduction for the public lamps, should they find it desirable to make one to private consumers. In the latter case the Company look to extended business and increased consumption to compensate for the reduction, which they cannot do in respect to the public lighting.

The Company are pleased that the Council have decided to discontinue the present arrangement with regard to the keeping in order the 135 lamps which ceased to be lighted after the Electric Light was introduced, as it entailed a positive loss to the Company and was only continued by them for the convenience of the Council.

With regard to the permission asked for to light a portion of the Nanking Road, I am directed to say that as the object was to get the best possible place for the proposed experiment, and the Bubbling Well Road being unsuitable for such a purpose the Company, while thanking the Council will not avail themselves of the permission to light it.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

CHR. SCHEFFELMANN,
Secy., Shanghai Gas Co.

R. F. THORBURN, Esq.,

Secretary, Shanghai Municipal Council.

Decided to make the new contract for one year on the conditions named.

Sanitary Board.—The following minutes of the meeting of the Board, on Wednesday, the 21st instant is read:

Cholera and Small-pox Hospital.—The Chairman, Dr. Macleod, stated that he had been in correspondence with Dr. Little about this Hospital, and had ascertained from him that it has never been full, not even during the severe outbreak of small-pox last year and that only once had a small pox patient been refused admission on account of cholera cases, in this Hospital.

Removal of Night Soil.—The Board recommended that the Police should be instructed not to allow night soil to be carried through the settlement after 8 a.m. during the summer months.

Stray Dogs.—And that the Council should authorise Captain McEuen to provide 2 additional carts and the necessary attendants for the capture of stray dogs.

Decided that these recommendations are to be carried out.

Name to New Road.—On the recommendation of the Works Committee it is decided that the new road between the North Shanse, and North Fokkien roads, is to be named the "San Tai road."

The Meeting then adjourned.

The following reports are submitted, and ordered to be published with the foregoing minutes.

Police.—Return of apprehensions, etc., made by the Municipal Police during the week ending the 1st day of July, 1893:—

Offences.	No. of apprehensions.
Assault and Robbery	2
Breach of Municipal Regulations	27
Burglary	2
Forgery	2
Furious riding or driving	8
Gambling	5
Larceny from persons	5
" dwellings, &c.	20
Miscellaneous cases	136
Ricsha Licences suspended	230
" confiscated	368
Wheelbarrow Licences suspended	31
Hand cart	1
Beggars, Hawkers, and Ragpickers	334

Total number of persons coming under the notice of Police 1,171
Chinese dead bodies found in streets... 4
Stray dogs captured 60

J. P. McEKEN.

Captain Superintendent, S.M.P.

Cattle in Native Dairies.—Return of animals kept at the native dairies for the week ending the 3rd July, 1893:—

Remarks.	1 English bull bought.	2 Buff sent to country (lur).	1 English calf born.	Grand total same as last week.
Ho Jia (New Stewart Road)	5	17	12	34
" No. 2	17	17	17	51
" No. 3	17	17	17	51
" No. 4	17	17	17	51
" No. 5	17	17	17	51
" No. 6	17	17	17	51
" No. 7	17	17	17	51
" No. 8	17	17	17	51
" No. 9	17	17	17	51
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" No. 25	17	17	17	51
" No. 26	17	17	17	51
" No. 27	17	17	17	51
" No. 28	17	17	17	51
" No. 29	17	17	17	51
" No. 30	17	17	17	51
" No. 31	17	17	17	51
" No. 32	17	17	17	51
" No. 33	17	17	17	51
" No. 34	17	17	17	51
" No. 35	17	17	17	51
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" No. 233	17	17	17	51
" No. 234	17	17	17	

3 added the former was caught by Mann at long-on. Cornish coming in he and Macgregor maintained the spirited character of the hitting, the captain treating the bowling with scant courtesy, and giving the out-fields plenty of employment. B undary hits were being made with a frequency anything but pleasing to the partisans of the Recreation Club, and the 130 going up at twenty minutes past six induced a change of bowling, Mann taking over the top end in place of T. Wallace. The alteration was immediately effectual, Cornish being c. and b. by the new bowler: 130-6-9. Gove coming in, another bowling change was made, Crawford relieving S. Wallace at the Pavilion end. As in the former case the change had the desired result, Macgregor being bowled by Crawford's first ball, after a characteristic display of good free all round hitting. With seven wickets down for 130, the game was in a decidedly interesting stage; in the short time still available for play, the visiting eleven needing 28 runs, with three wickets to fall. The total had been taken to 136, when Gove was out to an easy catch at point. Oram and Aubert then became partners, and in spite of excellent bowling and close fielding took the total to 143, when S. Wallace resuming bowling secured Oram's wicket. Cheetham was the last in, with 15 runs still necessary to avert defeat. At the first ball he launched out so vigorously that his bat flew from his hands in the direction of the neighbouring umpire, and then by the next delivery he was bowled. The innings thus closed for 143, leaving the S.R.C. victorious by 15 runs. The following are the scores and analyses:—

SHANGHAI RECREATION CLUB.

G. Peace, c. Murray	1
J. Mann, c. Abbott, b. Carr	97
F. A. Sampson, b. Adams	6
C. J. Stewart, c. Abbott, b. Carr	6
T. Wallace, c. sub., b. Murray	2
S. Wallace, run-out	2
D. W. Crawford, c. Murray, b. Adams	2
G. Wallace, b. Cornish	11
J. A. Cooper, b. Adams	3
E. W. Sharples, b. Murray	7
A. Hide, not-out	6
Byes 4; 1-b 2, w-b 3,	9

138

SHANGHAI BOWLING CLUB.

F. J. Abbott, c. S. Wallace, b. Sharples	2
F. H. Sawyer, b. Sharples	15
R. Macgregor, b. Crawford	49
H. Adams, run-out	38
R. Carr, c. and b. S. Wallace	9
N. E. Murray, c. Mann, b. T. Wallace	6
W. E. Cornish, c. and b. Mann	9
F. Gove, c. Stewart, b. Mann	3
F. B. Aubert, not-out	4
W. A. Oram, b. S. Wallace	4
J. F. Cheetham, b. S. Wallace	0
Byes 2; 1-b 1; w-b	4

143

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

S.R.C.				
Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.	
Abbott	6	0	22	0
Murray	20	2	53	3
Adams	15	3	43	3
Carr	8	2	22	2
Cornish	4	1	9	1

Murray bowled 1 and Carr 2 wides.

S.B.C.				
Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.	
Mann	10	2	18	2
Sharples	7	1	32	2
T. Wallace	12	1	30	1
Hide	2	0	10	0
S. Wallace	9.4	1	43	3
Crawford	3	1	6	1

Mann bowled a wide.

S.C.C. v. KALEE PAST AND PRESENT.

The meeting between the S.C.C. and Kalee Past and Present afforded a very one-sided exhibition of cricket. At all points of the game the Kalee eleven were out-played, and though Bell made 24, and Carruthers 22, they could not reach a higher

aggregate than 112, and were only able to capture one of their opponents' wickets for the considerable score of 101. Of course the match had to be left drawn, but there can be little doubt as to which side fortune favoured. The feature of the day's batting was the fine form shown by W. H. Moule, his 51 not-out being a very pleasing display of free batting. Ross must also be complimented upon his 38. As will be seen from the analysis some extremely good things were done in the way of bowling by the S.C.C., Powell once more showing how dangerous he is at times by securing four wickets at a cost of only 12 runs. The scores and analyses follow:—

KALEE.

H. Baxter, b. St. Croix	15
A. G. H. Carruthers, b. Wade	22
W. A. C. Platt, 1-b-w., b. St. Croix	5
F. C. Heffer, c. and b. St. Croix	7
W. B. Cheetham, b. Wade	8
G. K. H. Brutton, c. sub., b. Wade	0
H. F. Bell, c. St. Croix, b. Powell	24
Irwin Turner, c. St. Croix, b. Powell	7
J. H. Macoun, c. and b. Powell	6
A. B. Garriock, not-out	9
W. D. Graham, b. Powell	5
Byes	4

112

S.C.C.

W. H. Moule, not-out	51
A. Ross, c. Garriock, b. Cheetham	38
F. A. de St. Croix, not-out	10
E. F. Bennett,	
F. S. Saunders,	
S. Powell,	
H. C. Marshall,	
J. A. Sullivan,	
H. T. Wade,	
A. Anderson,	
J. Graham	
Byes 2,	2

did not bat.

101

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

KALEE.				
Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.	
St. Croix	13	1	36	3
Wade	17	4	41	3
W. H. Moule	4	0	19	0
Powell	3.3	0	12	4

S.C.C.

Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.	
Carruthers	10	2	26	0
Turner	7	1	27	0
Cheetham	5	0	30	1
Bell	2	0	16	0

SHANGHAI YACHT CLUB.

RACE FOR 2½-RATERS.

There are some people, many of them sportsmen too, who designate the 2½-raters by the depreciatory term "open boats," and who are under the impression that a sail on a Shanghai summer afternoon, starting as early as 3 o'clock, involves an amount of personal discomfort that only a "yachting crank" would put up with. Of course he whose ideal of enjoyment is a long chair and a long drink would be discontented with anything short of this, but to those who like fresh air, change of scene, and a little excitement, a sail in one of the 2½-raters on Saturday would have been delightful. Sun hats, a little iced *Aquarius*, a fine south-south-east whosail breeze to temper the heat of the sun, which was only oppressive during the short run dead before the wind down the Pagoda reach on the way back, made the afternoon more than tolerable; and shortly before 3 o'clock all the six boats in this class were waiting anxiously near the chow-chow water for the starting gun. The race was round a stake boat moored about two miles beyond the Pagoda and back, a distance of about 15 miles, and the *Alone* (3.1 rating) was allowing the four 2½-raters 3 mins. 10 secs., and the *Mascotte* (2.1 rating) 5 mins. 48 secs. The tide was flood, and the yachts crossed the starting line as under:—

<i>Spoondrift</i>	3h.	00m.	42s.
<i>Alone</i>	3h.	01m.	20s.
<i>Princess</i>	3h.	01m.	22s.
<i>Violet</i>	3h.	01m.	35s.
<i>Lamb</i>	3h.	02m.	05s.
<i>Mascotte</i>	3h.	04m.	00s.

The race was a beat up to the stakeboat, and a run back. At the junks the order was *Spoondrift*, *Violet* (these two boats being already some distance ahead), *Lamb*, *Alone*, *Princess*, and *Mascotte*. It looked here like a match between the two leading boats, which were sailing very evenly. Opposite Tungkadon the *Violet* got a favourable slant of wind, which gave her the lead. It was still a beat, with a long leg and a short one, up to near the Arsenal, whence it was a close haul, with occasional freeing of the wind, up to Pagoda Point. Up to this, the same order was maintained, the two leading boats being some distance ahead of the others. It was now a dead beat up the Pagoda reach, and the water was a little lumpy, with the wind against the last of the flood. The *Violet* and *Spoondrift* maintained their relative positions, but continued to draw away from the rest of the fleet, among which the principal change was that the *Princess* succeeded in weathering both the *Alone* and the *Lamb*. The stakeboat was rounded as follows:—

<i>Violet</i>	4h.	23m.	20s.
<i>Spoondrift</i>	4h.	24m.	30s.
<i>Princess</i>	4h.	32m.	00s.
<i>Lamb</i>	4h.	32m.	37s.
<i>Alone</i>	4h.	37m.	45s.
<i>Mascotte</i>	not timed.		

The first three boats kept over to the Pootung side, while the *Lamb* took the Shanghai side, the proper course, as was proved by her saving fully five minutes on the leading boat at Pagoda Point, and putting herself in the race again. In the meantime the *Spoondrift* had passed the *Violet*, and continued to increase her lead on the 'run home. The only other events to be noticed were the passing of the *Princess* by the *Alone*, and of the *Violet* by the *Lamb*. The little *Mascotte* was a long way behind. The finishing times were:—

<i>Spoondrift</i>	5h.	38m.	10s.
<i>Lamb</i>	5h.	41m.	17s.
<i>Violet</i>	5h.	42m.	34s.
<i>Alone</i>	5h.	44m.	44s.
<i>Princess</i>	5h.	47m.	25s.
<i>Mascotte</i>	5h.	57m.	40s.

The elapsed and corrected times were:—

Elapsed time.		Corrected time.	
<i>Spoondrift</i>	2h. 37m. 28s.	2h. 34m. 18s.	
<i>Lamb</i>	2h. 39m. 12s.	2h. 36m. 02s.	
<i>Violet</i>	2h. 40m. 59s.	2h. 37m. 48s.	
<i>Princess</i>	2h. 46m. 03s.	2h. 42m. 53s.	
<i>Alone</i>	2h. 43m. 24s.	2h. 43m. 24s.	
<i>Mascotte</i>	2h. 53m. 40s.	2h. 47m. 52s.	

The *Spoondrift*, which was steered by Capt. J. P. Roberts, won the race by 1 min. 44 secs. from the *Lamb*, and 3 mins. 31 secs. from the *Violet*.

S. M. V. C.

INTER-COMPANY CHALLENGE SHIELD.

The above competition took place on Wednesday morning between teams of 8 each from the Light Horse and the Artillery. The Artillery beat their opponents by 77 points, and retain the shield:—

ARTILLERY.

200 yds.	400 yds.	Tls
B. S. M. Cameron	4544554-31	3455525-29 60
Corp. Murphy	3354354-27	5544425-29 56
Gun. Ross	3403554-24	3355555-31 55
Driv. Bourke	2544344-26	5334353-26 52
Serg. Macdonald	0424454-23	4445045-26 49
Lieut. Rex	5225544-27	334224-19 46
Driv. Swanstrom	4243534-25	2224232-17 42
Bomb. Crank	4242333-21	2322222-16 37

204

193 397

LIGHT HORSE.			
Corp. Baxter	5443222-22	5355454-31	53
" Murray	3434244-24	2353435-25	49
Troop. Scott	2524022-17	3455225-29	46
" Woulliemier	3552232-22	4233245-23	45
Corp. Craddock	0 24402-14	2345245-25	39
Troop. Chisholm	2224244-20	0424304-17	37
T.S.M. Dyer	2332032-15	3202032-12	27
Troop. Bidwell	5203320-15	0000252-9	24
	149	171	320

Since the establishment of this contest, the wins have been:—Artillery 13; "C" Co. 2; "A" Co. 2; "B" Co. 1; Light Horse 1.

Below we give the competitors, their scores and averages, in the Inter-Company matches this year:—

WINNERS.				LOSERS.			
Company.	Points.	Aver.		Company.	Points.	Aver.	
17—11th January, 1893.—Teams of 8. Ranges, 500 and 600 yards:—							
Art. ...	385	48.1	"C"...	353	44.1		
18—20th April, 1893.—Teams of 8. Ranges, 200 and 500 yards:—							
Art. ...	414	51.8	"A"...	325	40.6		
19.—5th July, 1893.—Teams of 8. Ranges, 200 and 300. Weapon, Carabines:—							
Art. ...	397	49.6	L. H.	320	40.0		

SHOOTING.

"A" COMPANY MONTHLY CUP.

"A" Company Monthly Cup was shot for on Saturday morning and was won by Private Sharples for the first time, Private Beauchamp being second, and Lieut. Wingrove third.

Correspondence.

SILVER'S PRESENT POSITION.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—In September, 1886, and May, 1887, a Royal Commission was appointed in England to inquire into "the recent changes in the relative values of the precious metals," and, after a most careful and laborious investigation, during which clouds of witnesses and experts were examined on every point bearing upon the subject, the Commission, embracing twelve of the most competent men in the country, made its report in October, 1888.

This report is a monument of human thought. Nearly every one of its several hundred paragraphs embodies a separate problem in finance, and no better exercise for the discipline of the mind could be found than a careful study of these interesting questions. The factors are but two—gold and silver—but the kaleidoscope itself could hardly produce a greater number of combinations than do these two simple elements in connection with the currencies of the world. Every proposition put forward by the partisans of silver, or of gold, or of bimetalism, has its plausible rejoinder from those of the other side, and it seems as if not an idea that could be suggested on the subject had escaped attention. It is not surprising, therefore, that after carefully considering all the conflicting evidence and statements before them, the Commission was not able to come to a definite and unanimous conclusion at the time, but, from the drift of the opinions expressed, it seems certain that the additional experience and knowledge that have since been gained would elicit at the present moment a strong expression from a majority of its members in favour of bimetalism.

Paragraphs 192, 193, and 198 of that portion of the report which was signed by all the members of the Commission are so strong in support of such an

opinion that I hope I may be pardoned for quoting from them at length. They, therein, say: "These considerations seem to suggest the existence of some steady influence in former periods, which has now been removed, and which has left the silver market subject to the free influence of causes, the full effect of which was previously kept in check."

"The question therefore forces itself upon us—Is there any other circumstance calculated to affect the relation of silver to gold which distinguishes the later period from the earlier?"

"Now, undoubtedly, the date which forms a dividing line between an epoch of approximate fixity in the relative value of gold and silver, and one of marked instability, is the year when the bimetallic system, which had previously been in force in the Latin Union ceased to be in full operation; and we are irresistibly led to this conclusion, that the operation of that system, established as it was in countries the population and commerce of which were considerable, exerted a material influence upon the relative value of the two metals."

"So long as the system was in force we think that, notwithstanding the changes in the production and use of the precious metals, it kept the market price of silver approximately steady at the ratio fixed by law between them, namely $15\frac{1}{2}$ to 1."

"When once the conclusion is arrived at that this was the case, the circumstances on which we have dwelt as characterising the period since 1873 appear amply sufficient to account for the fall in the price of silver tending, as they all do, in that direction."

"Nor does it appear to us *a priori* unreasonable to suppose that the existence in the Latin Union of a bimetallic system with a ratio of $15\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 fixed between the two metals should have been capable of keeping the market price of silver steady at approximately that ratio."

"The view that it could only affect the market price to the extent to which there was a demand for it for currency purposes in the Latin Union, or to which it was actually taken to the mints of those countries is, we think fallacious."

"The fact that the owners of silver could, in the last resort, take it to those mints, and have it converted into coin which would purchase commodities at the ratio of $15\frac{1}{2}$ of silver to 1 of gold would, in our opinion, be likely to affect the price of silver in the market generally, whoever the purchaser, and for whatever country it was destined. It would enable the seller to stand out for a price approximating the legal ratio, and would tend to keep the market steady at about that point."

"The action of the Latin Union in 1873, broke the link between silver and gold which had kept the price of the former, as measured by the latter, constant at about the legal ratio; and when this link was broken, the silver market was open to the influence of all the factors which go to affect the price of a commodity."

The minority reports confirm these conclusions of the entire Commission, and in Part II, paragraph 107, the six signers say: "We think that in any conditions fairly to be contemplated in the future, so far as we can forecast them from the experience of the past, a stable ratio might be maintained if the nations we have alluded to were to accept and strictly to adhere to bimetalism at the suggested ratio. We think that if in all these countries gold and silver could be freely coined, and thus become exchangeable against commodities at the fixed ratio, the market value of silver as measured by gold would conform to that ratio, and not vary to any material extent."

Though these conclusions do not amount to an absolute recommendation, they fall little short of it, and point to bimetalism as the only possible remedy for the currency

troubles which the Commission had been able to discover after their arduous labours of more than a year. It is difficult to understand, therefore, why the conclusions of the Commission have met with so little apparent consideration from the Government and people of England.

This commission was composed of men eminently qualified for the task, appointed by the Queen for the express purpose of inquiring into the causes of the recent changes in the value of gold and silver, and instructed to suggest remedies for the evils consequent thereon. They clearly pointed out a practical expedient which had been proved by long experience to be thoroughly effective, and the only one likely to remedy those evils, and one would think their suggestion would have been adopted.

At all events it was expected that if any steps were taken it would be on the lines indicated by the Royal Commission, and not in—one may say—almost direct opposition to them, and it could certainly not have been anticipated, that a proposal which received no encouragement from this Commission, and had been rejected by a special committee to whom it had been referred would be accepted; yet this has actually been done!

In paragraphs 175 and 176 of their report the Commission say:—

"It has further been suggested that the difficulties of the Government of India, so far as they arise from the differences between the standard of value in that country and the United Kingdom, might be removed or modified by the adoption of a gold standard in India while retaining the existing silver currency. The first step towards such a measure would be to raise, by artificial means, the gold value of the rupee to any point which might be decided on, either by stopping the free coinage of silver in India, or by imposing such a seignorage as would raise the cost of the silver rupee to its gold value; while at the same time British or Indian gold coin would be made legal tender for all payments to the Government concurrently with the rupee at the fixed rate."

"A proposal of this character was submitted by the Government of India to the Home Government in 1878, and was referred for consideration to a Departmental Committee who reported that they could not recommend the proposal for adoption."

"The principal objections which are urged against it are:

"(a) That by enacting a gold standard without a gold currency it would be practically equivalent to the establishment of an inconvertible token currency."

"(b) That the closing of the only mint now open to free coinage of silver might have so serious an effect upon the value of that metal that it would be impossible to maintain the rate of exchange fixed upon."

"(c) That it would not meet the real difficulty of the present situation in India, which is that, owing to the fall in gold prices, a larger amount of produce has to be exported in payment of gold debts, and that consequently any apparent gain to the Government of India would be balanced by a corresponding loss to the people of that country."

"(d) The danger of illicit coinage, which would be greatly increased if the exchange value of the rupee were raised much above its intrinsic value."

Yet, in face of these very serious objections, and particularly that contained in (c), this is the measure that has actually been adopted by the Indian Government. And is now causing such terrible losses all over the world.

In view of the fact that Lord Herschell was a member of the Royal Commission and that this measure appears to have been rather summarily dismissed by them as being impracticable or inexpedient, it is hardly to be supposed that his Committee, which has recently had the subject under

consideration, should have recommended its adoption, and the probabilities are that, the Indian Government becoming desperate has seized upon it as the only avenue of escape from its troubles. However, this may be, it has fallen like a thunderbolt on the foreign trade of China; which is now almost paralysed, particularly business in imports, and it has been the more disastrous as, from the foregoing considerations, it was so completely unexpected.

It is worth our while therefore to enquire briefly into the motives for this move on the part of the Indian Government and its probable incidents. The motive has undoubtedly been to meet the difficulties of the present situation in India which is said above in (c) paragraph 176 of the report of the Royal Commission to be that, "owing to the fall in all gold prices a larger amount of produce has to be exported in payment of gold debts."

This proposition is correctly, though obscurely, stated as far as it goes, but it hardly covers the entire ground as the matter is understood to-day. The fact is that not only has a larger amount of produce to be exported to meet the increase of its gold indebtedness, but the Indian Government itself has to pay for this excess, for like many other countries such as Great Britain, France, Germany, the United States, etc., she finds herself burdened with a heavy debt payable in gold. As long as gold remained steady at its old ratio of 1 to 15½ compared with silver, it was comparatively easy for her, as it was for the other countries interested in the same way, to meet the interest on her debts by the existing system of taxation. But, as everyone ought to know and admit by this time, about twenty years ago, owing to various causes, which I have mentioned in my previous letters, gold commenced to appreciate in value, compared with silver and all other commodities, and has since steadily gone up, until now it stands about sixty per cent. above the point it then occupied.

It is evident that this appreciation in the value of gold must have caused a corresponding increase in the indebtedness of all gold standard countries. Take the debts of Great Britain for example at £900,000,000, in 1873. She really has now to pay as much, measured by commodities, in the way of interest, as she would have done in that year on £1,350,000,000. So it is with India. Every year the advance in gold has called for more and more commodities to pay the continually increasing amount in sterling interest accruing on her indebtedness, which fact would have been more accurately stated in (c) paragraph 176, as above, by saying: "Owing to the appreciation of gold a larger amount of produce has to be exported in payment of gold debts."

But as the Indian Government has to look to taxation to provide the funds for paying the interest on her debts, and as those taxes are paid in silver while the debts and interest have to be met in gold, it has required more rupees from year to year to enable the Government to meet this interest, until the rate of taxation could not be made to yield the required sum. The Government had therefore to increase the taxation or revert to some other expedient to extricate India from this embarrassing situation.

She could not impose further direct taxes without perhaps creating a feeling of discontent among the people; she has therefore resorted to the present measure. She has closed her mints to the coinage of silver, and advanced the rupee from the point at which it stood before to 1s. 4d. By this expedient she expects to reduce her interest payments by about £1,800,000 per annum. So much for the motives, now for the consequences.

1st. As stated in (c) paragraph 176 of the report of the Royal Commission: "This

apparent gain to the Government of India is balanced by a corresponding loss to the people of that country." They will have to pay the same number of rupees at the enhanced value for taxes and all other fixed charges, while they will, other things being equal, get a lower price or fewer rupees for their productions. This will place them very much in the same position as their fellows in the Western world, who are now crying out so loudly at the profitless results of their labour.

2d. The export trade of the country recently so flourishing will be more or less curtailed, or at least will not go on increasing, as it otherwise would have done, for (a) it is to be presumed that foreign countries were already paying fully as much as they were able to for the quantities of Indian goods they were taking, and hence they will either refuse to give a higher price, or take fewer goods. (b) India will in consequence have to submit to a material reduction in the price of commodities or suffer a constriction in her export trade, either of which contingencies would be a serious blow to her prosperity, and her losses in this way could only be reckoned by millions of pounds sterling. (c) It is to be assumed that she was already paying as high prices for imports as the resources of her people permitted, and hence, the artificial enhancement of the value of the rupee would not only reduce the rupee price of imports to the extent of that enhancement, but further to the extent of the curtailment of the resources of the people, and as Great Britain is the chief exporter to India her manufacturers will feel this additional blow most severely.

These are some of the injurious consequences which will redound to the great prejudice of India herself from this action of her Government; but they are as nothing compared with the widespread havoc and ruin which fall upon the rest of the world. Silver, for example, fell on the publication of the news of the measure from 38 pence to 32 pence per ounce, or 15 per cent., and taking the stock of silver in the world at £800,000,000 this means a shrinkage in value of £120,000,000, a capital sum the interest on which would itself more than pay the annual amount raised by the Indian Government. Then, if one contemplates the stupendous losses which have been inflicted on property holders all over the world, and particularly in silver-using countries, the ruin has been simply appalling! It would take pages on pages to follow the destructive consequences of the measure through their innumerable and widespread ramifications, and notice even in the most general way their disastrous effects upon the different classes of people involved. Not only upon those engaged in commerce, in banking, in industrial occupations, but upon the tens of thousands who, having retired from active life, have been living on incomes derived from silver countries, many of whom by this stroke have been reduced from comfort to want, and perhaps even to beggary itself.

The London telegram published in the *N.-C. Daily News* of the 1st July describes the situation in graphic language: "The action of the Indian Government with regard to silver has demoralised the exchanges of Europe and America." The exchanges of Europe and America demoralised! This means a general upheaval of all things pertaining to property, trade and finance; changes which can be fitly compared only with those catastrophes that sometimes have possibly taken place on the surface of the earth by which the sea occupied the place of the land, and continents appeared where oceans existed before; changes by which a few become rich but multitudes are beggared, and the monetary relations of all are altered.

And who, forsooth has benefited by the act? Not the people of India, for, as was suggested in (c) paragraph 176 of the report of the Royal Commission, "any

apparent gain to the Government of India would be balanced by a corresponding loss to the people of that country." No, the people for whom the Government is supposed to exist are impoverished by the measure. And as for the Government, though it may be temporarily extricated from a difficult financial situation, it will doubtless find in the end that this, like all political and financial measures that are not based on sound moral and economical principles will bring certain disaster in its train.

The advantage gained by the Indian Government seems so completely incommensurate with the injury inflicted upon her people and the world at large that, one cannot believe that we are yet informed of the full details of the measure she has in view, and must hope that the step she is reported to have taken is the first towards the adoption of bimetalism, which is the only scheme yet suggested by which the errors that have been committed in financial legislation can be retrieved and the currencies of the world restored to a condition of stability.

I am, etc.,
W. S. WETMORE.

6th July.

THE TERM QUESTION.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—The anonymous communication from Hankow which was published in yesterday morning's *Daily News* is another curious instance of how figures may be manipulated to carry out an idea which is in the writer's mind, but where, when the facts are all known, a very different conclusion may be arrived at. I have no desire to take any part in the "Term controversy," but would like to make a few explanations which may throw light on the figures used.

It will be noticed that the Central China R.T.S. (Hankow) "required" during the year, 1,250,000 "books." Turning now to the last annual Report of that Society, page 9, we find their circulation during the year, as there reported,— "books, 215,961"—all the rest being "sheet-tracts, folded tracts, calendars, introductions to the Scriptures," &c. In an argument such as the writer of the letter was trying to enforce, it seems anything but just to offset so many thousands of Scriptures, portions, and books, with sheet-tracts, calendars and the like.

Again, in a second table showing the "number of Christian books printed in Chinese during 1892" by the various Mission Presses,—the "Shanghai Mission Press" is credited with a total of 519,800 books, while the "Hankow Mission Press and Native Printers" are credited with 1,561,000. From what has been notified above it is quite fair to infer that only about one-fifth of the Hankow output can be called "books." Whereas, all those reported by the Mission Press, Shanghai, were books proper, or such as are included in the annual Report of the Hankow Society under the heading of "books." Sheet tracts and magazines, (six Chinese magazines of which alone the output of the Shanghai Press was some 229,000) were not included. So that, for purposes of argument, the figures given in the Hankow letter would seem to be quite unreliable and misleading, and I am sure that the final settlement of the "Term controversy" is rather hindered than helped by such one-sided representations.

I am, &c.,
G. F. FITCH.

30th June.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—As another proof that the anonymous communication from Hankow is not conclusive on the Term question, will you allow me to remark that while at this station

our mission uses the term *Shen*, we in our work largely use the Hankow publications because of their intrinsic worth, in spite of the *Shangti* defect. I wonder if there are not many more who are doing the same. Let them give us the option between the two terms and I for one will take the *Shen* edition every time. As one of the younger missionaries I have not gone very deeply into the "Term controversy," but after a careful reading of Dr. Blodget's little pamphlet on "The Use of *T'ienchi* for God" I feel convinced that that would be the best term to unite on.

I am, etc.,

JAS. E. BEAR.

Chinking, 3rd July.

EXEMPLARY HONGKONG.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR:—The necessity for reform, both in our "Marine Courts of Inquiry" at home, and in our "Naval Courts abroad" is very great, and full of interest to every one connected with shipping.

The late Naval Court at Hongkong which held an inquiry into the loss of the British barque *Penshaw* reflects the very highest credit upon the Marine authorities of that colony, and I think we may well and justly describe them as the "Rising Stars of the East," in their endeavour to form equitable courts to inquire into marine accidents and losses.

Of one thing I am sure, and that is, the Marine authorities of Hongkong will receive the warmest praise from all nautical men for the manner in which they interpret the law as to the composition of Naval Courts, and none will fail to re-echo the words, "Exemplary Hongkong."

The Court formed on this occasion resembled a fine stately oak, determined to stand and do its duty in the face of anything that could be hurled against it. Each member represented a bough of sympathetic strength, in whom dwelt the very core of justice, that could not be smirched with class prejudice.

The unfortunates who had to go through the trying ordeal of answering for the loss of their ship must have been supremely conscious that they were standing before, and being tried by, an eminently qualified body of men, in whom they need have no fear. As to the justice of the issue, how gratifying then must this have been to them, when they and others know full well, that Naval Courts are too often pseudonymous, and need more nautical representation to make them worthy of the name they bear.

Naval Courts should be largely composed of Mercantile Marine men, as they, and they alone, are able to appreciate and understand the nature of the dangers and evils that exist amongst them, and the impossibility sometimes of being able to cope with them, no matter how smart and able a man may be.

Of the Royal Navy element which too often figures on our Naval Courts, to the exclusion of mercantile marine men, much has been said, and honourable though they be, and notwithstanding the improved feeling that happily exists between the two services, it would be far better if Navy men were excluded from our Courts. It is impossible for men trained as they are to thoroughly grasp the position of a Mercantile Marine man under difficulties, and to say the least, he has infinitely more to face daily than the naval man—war perhaps excepted.

I should have no objection to a Naval officer sitting as president of the Court, in the absence of a Consular officer, or Magistrate, as I feel sure the majority of them are fair-minded, and would accept the guidance, and the finding of the expert members without prejudice.

If Naval men were consulted, I believe none would volunteer to sit on our Courts,

as they well know that we have an abundance of men in the merchant Service, as capable, and as honourable as themselves.

The late court at Hongkong that acquitted the Captain and officers of blame for the loss of the barque *Penshaw* was composed of the following members:—

R. Murray Rumsey, R. N., President
E. P. Ashe, R. N.

F. W. Goddard, ...s.s. *Hait-m.*

W. A. de St. Croix s.s. *Wingsang.*

Griffiths Owen*Celtic Chief.*

Notwithstanding the presence of two Navy men, we still have a splendid court after our own hearts and minds, and one worthy of "Exemplary Hongkong."

To mention "Naval Courts" in relation to mercantile marine cases, may sound strange to some ears, but this is the name given to all such Courts held abroad. "Naval" does not necessarily mean "Royal Navy" nor, does it mean that Navy men shall even sit at all in such Courts. And it is quite lawful to appoint three shipmasters out of the (maximum) five members.

To show the ineptitude of the law relating to Naval Courts, I may mention that it is the power of those whose duty it is to call them, to make the composition as follows:—

An Assistant Consul.

A Merchant.

A Shipmaster.

This pseudo-Court savours more of red tape and cotton yarn, than it does of the tarpot, deviation curves, double altitudes, or the treachery of subtle currents, and why our legislators so passed the law as to enable any capricious government official—it may be totally ignorant of the question at issue—to form a Court according to his own sweet will is beyond my comprehension. No thought can be taken of justice, when this happens; such a Court may be justifiable in some outside, or out of the way corner of the world where milk alone can be found, and no cream, but there is no necessity to form such a Court in places where there is a superabundance of the very best article, which may be had for the asking.

It cannot be said of Government officials who adopt this course that they exercise excessive jurisdiction in the direction of equity, but on the contrary, the minimum limit of efficiency seems the one thing aimed at, which the makers of the law never anticipated would be dremt of, except in very exceptional cases.

If the composition of all Naval Courts were in accord with the spirit of the law, few indeed could complain, but when such Courts are composed of three members only, one single shipmaster can seldom make his voice heard to any effect against paid servants of the Crown, and he is as utterly silenced as though he never existed.

When that section of the Merchant Shipping Act was passed into law which gave the mercantile marine a majority on Naval Courts of five members, our legislators had full confidence in the sterling British shipmaster and judged him capable of doing his duty unflinchingly, even as a member of such a Court. Why then should he not be employed in his full strength on such occasions?

The duties of a Naval Court are very onerous, far more indeed than it ordinarily appears. It is not called to take a chain of evidence leading up to conviction for crime, but on the contrary, whilst listening to evidence, it should carry itself—if only in the imagination—to the scene of perhaps some awful catastrophe, and there dive deep into the fog, the blinding mist, the raging storm, and feel some of the perplexities of the situation, and try to realise, not only what was in the mind of the man who—under great trials—had to act, and did act to the very best of his ability, but they should ask themselves this question,—Did not this man act as most

men would have done, without all the after knowledge that has come to light? It is not the duty of a Court to brand a man as culpable because his judgment led him the wrong way, or led him to do something that he would not have done, if he had known just what it was impossible to discover.

What would be thought, if when an honest bankrupt came before the Registrar he was refused his discharge on the ground that he committed an error of judgment in one of his speculations? An error of judgment was committed, hundreds of poor people ruined, and yet, for this, the bankrupt goes free, as no dishonest motives were discovered. He committed an error of judgment, that is all, and can start business again to-morrow.

How very different is it with the mariner? He poor fellow makes a mistake, commits a pure error of judgment, and is too frequently punished in a most scandalous manner. I have even known men to suffer who were perfectly innocent of even committing the slightest error of judgment. Why? Because of the *woise than puerile Courts* that tried the cases. The commercial man is rightly acquitted for a pure error of judgment, and why should not the same law apply to one of Neptune's sons?

Happily there is such a thing as "Full and Change," we have had the "Full" the "Change" is now upon us, and we rejoice to see the bright example set by Hongkong. Such a change is really needed, all round, so that justice and equity may go hand in hand together. The change however, is not singular to China, it has reached Scotland, only in another form.

A fine, clear-headed, and fearless man—Mr. Sheriff J. Campbell Smith, Judge of Board of Trade Inquiries at Dundee—of whom I should say few are his peers for sound logical deductions and conclusions—is another champion of the change that is setting in.

The following is quoted from Mr. Sheriff J. Campbell Smith's report on the stranding of the s.s. *Gerona* of Dundee:—

"I respect, and am bound to respect skilled nautical opinion on nautical matters, but I am not bound by nautical opinion in criminal law. Before there can be either wrongful negligence or default there must, in my opinion, be an element of conscious, positive wrong-doing, or conscious failure to do what is known to be right or necessary to be done. Now, where am I in this evidence to find the element of conscious commission of the wrong or failure to do the right? The Captain, I fully realise, committed an error, or series of errors in judgment, or rather failure to exercise judgment appropriate to the exigencies of the moment. His cardinal error, and the fatal parent of the rest, was that he was deceived by the apparent clearness of the night into the belief that he could not come within two miles of the land without seeing it. Had this belief been well founded all would have gone well. The result proved that it was not well founded; but a man is not to be condemned by results and after-hand knowledge, he must be judged by the light that he had when he formed the belief. Am I then to hold that the Captain was utterly reckless, rash, thoughtless, and foolhardy when he thought himself safe to believe his eyes in regard to the clearness of the night? All the witnesses seem to have been in like manner deceived by it, more especially Captain Sutherland of the steamer *Queen*, who was similarly though not equally surprised in the early dawn of the same morning to find himself within a quarter of a mile off Copinsash, though he had expected to see it eight or ten times that distance off. I am not able to condemn a man with a serious penalty for too readily believing his eyes. His belief may have been incautious, unscientific, even childish, but I cannot hold it to be criminal. Certainly in its inception it could not be. We are all compelled to believe our eyes, though often obliged to correct their erroneous reports by scientific critical adjustment. I can only wonder—it is easy sitting on shore to wonder—why he should have been so readily credulous as to what he thought he could see, and so dull to apprehend

the meaning of what he might have seen—perhaps ought to have seen. But for all that I cannot ignore the facts that he was not sleeping or idling or drinking; that he was at his post, wide awake, doing his duty to the best of his ability—perhaps erring in judgment, perhaps failing in judgment, perhaps struck by temporary absence and confusion of mind—and I feel that it is impossible for me to find guilty of an offence and to punish as an offender against law any man who has been doing his best to the uttermost of his powers, moreover especially a man of proved ability, of manifest veracity, and of unexceptionable character. A reprimand we give as a matter of legal form, but we are well aware that no reprimand by any Court on earth can tell upon a man like this Captain with an effect so terrible as the disaster to this splendid ship, in which disaster he was the chief though probably unconscious instrument."

I hope the day is dawning when we shall have a great many fine open-minded common sense Sheriff Smiths to deal with marine casualties, then indeed fair play will be the order of the day, and those who have the misfortune to commit an error of judgment at sea will not be thought worse off than people on shore, who are doing the same thing daily, nay hourly, and are not deprived of the means of gaining a livelihood.

In this case, the Assessors—Board of Trade men—differed from the Judge, and found the Captain at fault, but the pure-minded Sheriff Smith could not be influenced by them, and in his fine judicious style, gave this famous verdict, in opposition to the two paid officials.

A Bill is now before Parliament, called the "Certificated Officers' Bill." It was introduced into the House of Commons on the 21st February by Mr. Ralph Neville, Q. C., M. P. for the Liverpool Exchange Division. I will not trouble you with an outline of the Bill, but one of its main features is to make it compulsory to have two nautical men as assessors on all marine inquiries. The Bill is a very moderate one, the result of patient deliberation by the representatives of the Shipmasters' and Officers' Federated Societies.

At the second social dinner of shipmasters, that took place lately at the Grand Hotel, Tynemouth, Captain Holt, who presided, said: "I consider it unfair to our mercantile Captains and officers to be judged by Royal Navy men. I think the mercantile marine is able to supply Assessors for these Courts. There are plenty of intelligent men in it capable of dealing with all questions likely to arise, and much more experienced in matters connected with our merchant ships than Royal Navy men are. Would any Admiral consent to a mercantile Captain sitting as Assessor where his professional reputation was at stake? (Applause.) It is wrong for Assessors to be other than persons who have practical acquaintance with the subjects on which they have to decide."

The whole service is at one with Captain Holt, and fully recognises the necessity for a more representative body of men to sit on Marine Courts, but it is not asked that these Courts shall be mere shelters to screen offenders, or to acquit the guilty. The great thing aimed at is to have all the mercantile marine expert talent that the law at present allows, in the case of "Naval Courts abroad," and to make it compulsory for two mercantile marine Assessors to sit on "Marine Courts" at home, so that there may be the very minimum of possible error in the decisions given.

Why is so much inconsistency shown in the composition of Naval Courts abroad? The law allows a wide latitude, and the "powers that be" should recognise this, nor stop short till the Pole of Justice has been reached, and every invidious parallel (parallel cases are too often followed) passed; then indeed, and not till then can it be said, that our Judges stand on a point where only meridians meet, there to mea-

sure out a full and complete high meridian of justice and equity.

It is well to be consistent but better still to be just. The Hongkong example will doubtless stay the fatty degeneration which has been too dominant amongst some of those whose function it is to summon these Courts, and we may expect to see the healing elixir of reform replace the quasi-despotic individualism which has been so rampant in the past, and which points to one conclusion only; that a deeply-studied, stubborn, stubbornness has been too often found antagonistic to the redress of legitimate grievances.

Who can tolerate disfigurement? And is not the law disfigured when its true spirit is not acted upon, and one half its true interpretation smothered? It is high time that the narrow ruts of error, and unfairness, were passed and the provisions of the law carried out in their completeness.

A progressive stage has been reached at Hongkong, and Dundee has given us a Judge to be proud of, and may we not hope that this setting in of the flood, will lead on to the truthful reading of the Merchant Shipping Act, and to a full and complete measure of light, and reform?

Truth will endure as a shining light,
When electrical products cease to be,
And the æons of ages in their flight,
Seal all error, and set justice free.

I am, etc.,

R. E. HARRIS.

S.S. Yung Ching.

Honorary Agent at Shanghai to the
Mercantile Marine Service Association of
Liverpool.

Off the S.E. Promontory,

7th June, 1893.

P.S.—This letter was written before the Court sat on the *Whampoa* case, but unfortunately I was not at Shanghai to get it published. I should like to say, however, much as the abilities of the gentlemen who sat on that case are appreciated, the Court was an incomplete one, and needed two other mercantile marine Captains, as members to bring it up to the efficiency that our legislators thought desirable when framing the law dealing with "Naval Courts abroad."

R. E. H.

29th June.

THE LAST RACE FOR THE CHAMPIONS.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY-NEWS.

SIR.—In a paragraph recently published in the *Hongkong Telegraph* referring to the "questioned riding-out of Blackberry in the race for the Champions" last meeting, it is stated that an "informal investigation into the matter was made by the Stewards of the Jockey Club with the result that Mr. D. E. Sassoon was thoroughly exonerated." If this statement is correct (of which I have no official information) it is perhaps open to question whether the Stewards would be justified in taking the decided step they are reported to have done on the result of an "informal investigation."

However this may be I think it well as one who is acquainted with the facts to state how the case at present stands.

After the Race for the Champions some members of the Club made some rather strong remarks regarding the riding of *Blackberry*. Mr. Sassoon hearing of these remarks requested the Stewards to call on these members to substantiate or withdraw them in writing. This the Stewards did, with the result that the remarks made were confirmed in writing. It is understood that these letters were forwarded by the Stewards to Mr. Sassoon. Since then no action has been taken; the writers

of the letters have not been communicated with further in any way.

How therefore the Stewards can have taken the definite action attributed to them by the *Hongkong Telegraph* is difficult to understand; and the statement certainly requires confirmation.

I am, etc.,

FAIRPLAY.

4th July.

N.B.—The following is the paragraph in the *Hongkong Telegraph* referred to in the above letter:—"With reference to the questioned riding-out of *Blackberry* in the race for the Champions at the recent Shanghai Meeting, we learn that an informal investigation into the matter was made by the Stewards of the Jockey Club, with the result that Mr. D. E. Sassoon was thoroughly exonerated; and an official letter to this effect was sent to that gentleman. But when will the genial "David" learn even the rudiments of the ethics of racing? A declaration of an intended winner would save all these childish squabbles, for when ninety-nine out of every hundred of your would-be sports drop their dollar on a race they never fail to discover a cause for it. They see more things than are dreamed of in the philosophy of the average on-looker. At the Hongkong Meeting of '92 when *Hero* and *Lightning* were the only two ponies "in" in the race for the Champions, Mr. Sassoon declared to win with *Hero*, and although *Lightning* ran rings round him from start to finish and had really to be pulled double coming down the straight, there was no question as to the propriety of the action, even amongst the spectators ignorant of the simplest laws of racing. He had made his declaration and that was sufficient. That experience should have taught Mr. Sassoon a lesson; his latest in Shanghai will, we doubt not."

Poetry.

EPITHALAMIUM.

6th July, 1893.

Far from green England, on your
marriage day
Glad Bride and Bridegroom, yet
we nearer stand
Than you, to where the waking sun's
first ray
Stirs into life and sound this
Eastern land.
He sees us glad in your high joy,
and flies
Westward to watch the pageant;
and the light
Which softer bathes you from dear
English skies
Is the same sun which saw our
welcome bright.
Our hearts go westwards too with
westerling sun;
How pass the hours, now the glad
day's begun?
The full leafed woods with birds' glad
music thrill,
Not voiceless yet, though Spring's
best songs are still.
The lanes with honeysuckle shaded
o'er
Hear the far echo of the city's roar.
And the great city's parks and
gardens fair
Shake with gun's boom, and peal-
ing bells aloft;
And shout of English voices fills the
air!

No spectre shadow chills the summer glow;

But from the silent land, in whisper soft
A brother's blessing comes; and hearts so low

Asleep beneath the Mediterranean blue,
Seem from the underworld, with echo true,

To rise and join their welcoming cheer with ours.

So pass for you the merry marriage hours!

England! which holds her sister island's hand

With the firm touch of their high Union band;

England! with sway Imperial but more free

Touching her wider realms from sea to sea;

England, the greater Britain, hails to-day

Prince George now wed with sweet Victoria May!

And higher still, for they attempt the skies,

The echoes of the Church's prayers arise;

The blessing of the Lord enriching comes;

And trouble never blights the hearts and homes

Heaven blesses thus! So bless them both, O Lord!

And Thy great Name for ever be adored.

A. E. M.

Miscellaneous.

THE LOSS OF H.M.S. VICTORIA.

MEMORIAL SERVICE AT THE CATHEDRAL.

There was a crowded congregation on Sunday morning at Holy Trinity Cathedral, on the occasion of the Service in memory of those lost in the terrible disaster to H.M.S. *Victoria* off Tripoli. The officers and men of the British men-of-war and the officers of the German war vessels in port, were among those present. The musical portion of the service, under Mr. Crompton's direction, was particularly appropriate. It opened with one of Mendelssohn's "Songs without words" in E minor, which was played at the composer's funeral. After hymn No. 370, "Eternal Father, strong to save," and Psalms XXXIX and XC, Smart's *Te Deum* in F was sung. Special Lessons were chosen from Isaiah XXV and 1 Cor. XV, 42. Spohr's beautiful Anthem "Blest are the departed," having been given, "God save the Queen" was sung before the Sermon. It had a most impressive effect, and was a fitting prelude to the sermon which Arch-deacon Moule delivered as follows:—

PSALM CXII. 7.

PSALM XLVI. 1.

Sorrow and joy, sunshine and gloom. How often these fall and lie near to one another. A sudden and tragic calamity has befallen the great fleet of England—in the destruction of her finest ship; named after her beloved and honoured Queen. And this within a fortnight of an event in which the whole nation will rejoice—the marriage of the Queen's grandson—the future heir of England, our sailor Prince—with the Princess May.

I have felt that such events should not be wholly unnoticed by us in this great

Church, though separated by wide seas from the scenes of sorrow and of joy.

There is a temptation in some minds to find a species of relief from the weight of the great catastrophe, by the fancy that the very name of the lost ship is marked with ill-omen. How can it be so, when it is the name of the Queen, blessed and strengthened by the Most High, to hold and guide the helm of England's State, through fifty-six long years—in war and in peace—in days of personal brightness or profoundest sorrow, with revolution shaking Europe from end to end, and civil war devastating the new England over the sea, yet ready still for high duty, and keenly watchful still in her evening hours for the supreme good of the empire. No evil omen can cling to the name *Victoria*: neither do we with hearts trusting in the Lord, and God as our refuge and strength, believe much in fate or luck or omen. Others with pessimist fancy would see in this most tragic calamity a lurid type of what may be near at hand in England. The British Isles like sister ships sailing in company, are now, by a manœuvre which some esteem the ripest fruit of wisest policy, and others the maddest outcome of opportunist folly, signalled to change line. Will the result be collision, catastrophe, ruin to the Queen and to the realm? God forbid, I reply: and I turn at once from fancy and from imagination to notice in a few brief words the circumstances of the great sorrow which we remember to-day, and the lessons which it teaches us. I do not wish to detain you with platitudes. And I do not think it is a platitude to notice with thankfulness to God, that serene courage and true heroism are not things of the past in the British navy.

Imagine, so far as the meagre details to hand, enable us to imagine, the scene. There lies the town of Tripoli, shining on its rocky promontory. The setting sun is lengthening the gigantic shadows of the majestic range of Lebanon. Far to the westward the sun's rays light up the peaks of Olympus and the lower hills of Cyprus. It is five o'clock in the afternoon; and the fresh sea breeze has sprung up and is scattering the haze and oppressive heat of the day. Life and light and glad hope seem to fill the air, as the British fleet steams by, manœuvring under the skilled and practised eye and command of her gallant Admiral. With signals aloft, and the intricate and complicated machinery controlled by the telegraph within touch, exulting the ships pass on. Suddenly, not we may be sure by mistaken order, but by some unforeseen accident to machinery or steering gear, the two great ships collide; the *Victoria* receives fatal damage; she is headed for the shore with the vain hope of beaching her, and saving life. In a few minutes, scarce time enough allowed for thought, or order, or enquiry, all hope is over; death comes close to them across the fresh and dancing waves; the great ship filled with every appliance and contrivance of scientific improvement, well found, well commanded, well served, is sinking fast; and then above the awful confusion and turmoil, the Admiral's true British heart rises in heroism—he orders every man to save himself as best he may, and remains alone at his post on the bridge; and there he goes down with the sinking *Victoria*. We imagine sometimes that science has superseded courage in modern schemes of warfare, but thank God this is not so; and whether within wooden walls or iron walls, true heroism, and the courage of British hearts live on. And I doubt whether there was one of the *Victoria's* crew who would not have stood where the Admiral stood on that deck of death had duty called.

Then surely it is not a mere platitude, but the thought of all our hearts, when I express the deepest sympathy with the multitude of mourners whose hearts are with those 422 British seamen asleep be-

neath the blue waters of the Mediterranean. Think how the tidings must have thrilled all England on that summer night of 23rd June, and with what gloom and sorrow the next glad summer day must have dawned over green England. A catastrophe had befallen our great fighting ship more terrible and probably more destructive than would have resulted from that which no British sailor would ever imagine to be possible, the destruction of the *Victoria* in battle. So unexpected—like thunder and a falling bolt out of a clear and cloudless sky! Husband and son and brother and lover dead, with death seemingly far away; drowned in fine weather, and close to shore. Shall we not weep with those that weep; remembering that sympathy, especially when strengthened by the waiting uplifting wings of prayer, has a mysterious and marvellous power to console and to help the mourners.

Then lastly notice how by a sudden shock and blow this loss of the *Victoria* brought to those on board her—and to the fleet watching round in horror—and to England; and how it brings now to us in this Church; the reality of the solemn truth, that in the midst of life we are in death: that the unseen but most real life after death is very near us: that the spirit world is close to us all the time. An accident small or great, individual, or like the *Victoria's* endangering a whole ship's company, may come at any moment; and that the highest wisdom, and the truest prudence alike summon us to instant and careful preparation for that eternal world. Is that possible? Science could not save the science guided and furnished *Victoria* from ruin which one of Nelson's old ships might have survived! Does any one know of any plan by which security can be ensured for the soul—by which we can cast anchor within the veil and be at peace even when riding the waves of this troublesome sinful world! Is it not all guesswork, chance, fancy, superstition? Not so! "He shall not be afraid of any evil tidings"; come they in long agonising march, or suddenly like the crash of the *Victoria*. He shall not be afraid, whose heart is fixed trusting in the Lord. If "God is our refuge and strength" we need not fear.

Those very waters beneath which the *Victoria* lies were traversed once by Paul the prisoner. He had seen Christ Jesus the Crucified Risen Redeemer in glory and he said in the calm confidence of absolute certainty; "I know whom I have believed and I am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed to Him unto that day." Be sure that that same Saviour who died for all mankind, was very near to all who called upon him in truth during those few minutes of agony before the *Victoria* went down; and He is near to-day, to pardon, to bless, to save, to renew by Holy Spirit you too, if you draw near in faith and accept His Salvation.

Immediately after the sermon, hymn No. 373, "God moves in a mysterious way," was sung, and then the Dead March in *Saul* was played as a voluntary, whilst the congregation remained standing.

Holloway's Pills.—Cure for Indigestion.—Indigestion, with torpidity of the liver, is the curse of thousands, who spend each day with accumulated sufferings, all of which may be avoided by taking Holloway's Pills according to their accompanying directions. They strengthen and invigorate every organ subservient to digestion. Their action is purifying, healing and strengthening. They may be safely taken without interfering with ordinary pursuits, or requiring much restriction in diet. They quickly remove noise and giddiness in the head, and dispel low spirits and nervous fears. These balsamic Pills work the cure without debilitating or exhausting the system; on the contrary, they conserve and support the vital principle by substituting pure for impure blood.

ST. XAVIER'S SCHOOL.

There was a large audience at the Annual Distribution of Prizes at this School on Saturday afternoon. Monseigneur V. Garnier, Vicar Apostolic of Kiangnan, presided, with most of the foreign Consuls-General and Consuls, though the British Consulate was not represented, on his right and left, the boys of the school covering the raised benches at the back of the covered playground which, decorated with wreaths and cutcheons and scholastic devices, forms the theatre on these occasions. The proceedings began with a *Fantaisie Militaire* admirably played by the Band, and this was followed by a theatrical performance, of which the following was the programme:—

2—A scene of the Shanghai Jubilee, or Civilisation in the Far East:

Mr. Foster	2 old	J. Taveres.
Greenwood	residents	G. Bidwell.
Frank	the sons of	C. Seitz.
Fred	Mr. Foster	A. Eveleigh.
A-pao, his steward		L. Foncica.
Mickle, a sailor		W. Harrison.
Kao Li-hiang, an old Chinaman		C. Maher.

The action of this little original play, capably represented by all concerned, was supposed to take place on Jubilee Day, and it was made the vehicle for a telling description of what fifty years of western civilisation have done for Shanghai. The distribution of prizes interspersed with choruses, excellently rendered by the children, followed, a gallop by the Band winding up the proceedings. It would be difficult to praise too highly the devotion of the masters to their pupils, and the evident respect and affection with which the children regard the fathers who carry on this important work.

THE STORY OF A SENTRY BOX.

Once upon a time—not so long ago—there was a riot in Yangtziang and the foreigners were driven out and mauled; their homes looted and their houses burnt. Married men had to climb the hills with their wives and families, dodging the crowd of angry rioters until a chance offered of their running for the hulks with a crowd at their heels and stones whizzing past their heads.

Then Yangtziang rang with the lamentations of foreign women and the maledictions of foreign men, for the crowd was numerous to tackle. But the riot spent itself and left the foreigners the shells of wrecked houses to return too—thick with the filth of a filthy people. Gradually they returned and the Taotai sent soldiers to the Settlement to guard the foreigners because he knew the damage was done, and these things occur in cycles of ten years and not ten days, or weeks. It was a time for a little cheap popularity with the foreigner after the rumpus, and he bid for it. For the fires of the last two days had gladdened his private eye, while his official eye looked deprecation and concern.

Then followed diplomatic courtesies and interviews and the bland Taotai promised everything. He lined the Settlement with soldiers—for the danger had past—and allowed the Municipality to clothe them. He sought and obtained permission to place sentry boxes around the Settlement as a shelter for the guardians of the peace; and all was safe and well, and the foreigners lodged their claims and rebuilt and refurnished their homes on the strength of being paid after a year's bargaining and loss of five per cent.

Meantime the ubiquitous gunboat arrived and there was calm in the breast, and confidence in the heart of the foreigner once more; he took more room to walk along the Bund and called "boy" in a louder tone. Then the soldiers who were guarding what most of them had helped to attack began to be a nuisance; so some of them were withdrawn. Time rolled on and the peace was kept and the soldiers reduced, but the sentry boxes remained

and became an eyesore and abomination to the foreign community. Representations were made to the Taotai, interviews held, and the shelters in the rear of the Settlement were moved, but those in front, on the Bund, remained and members of the community bit their lips when they passed them.

Then the Municipality aroused itself, took action and wrote to the British Consul, and the British Consul wrote to the Municipality and addressed the Taotai on the matter, but the Chinaman remained immovable and brought Celestial diplomacy into play, and, it is said, questioned the right of the Municipality or Consul to interfere, as the shelters were on Chinese ground which belonged not to the original Settlement. Then a gang of coolies was marched to the Bund, a Municipal officer attended, and the soldiers' shelters were removed and the foreigner swung jauntily along the front with airy step and easy grace, born of the pride of his race.

But a Nemesis awaited the foreigners, for there was another interview between the Consul and the Taotai, who considered the last word had not yet been spoken. After that interview the Consul returned a sadder man, and another despatch went forth to the office of the Municipality and the shelters were brought back by the coolies and at the expense of the Municipality and replaced in their old positions. There was no compromise, no building of more modern conveniences for soldiers to rest in, no plea of beautifying the Bund and thus escaping from an untenable position. The old boxes were replaced in all their hideousness and the foreigner "lost face."

Now the foreigners go about with dropped head and rising shoulders as men that are abashed and ashamed. But they dare not trust themselves to discuss the matter that is nearest their hearts. They are seldom seen on the front and if ever found there are generally looking for something they seem to have lost. Coolies push them with their elbows and knock them with their loads, but they are meek men and make no representations to the proper quarter. How long this will last cannot be foretold, there is but one way of restoring their manhood. Those sentry-boxes must be removed or life will be an intolerable nuisance and suicides numerous, for the Consul himself has already sought rest and change in the land of the Rising Sun.

LAWN TENNIS AT TIENTSIN.
CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT.

Tennis plays a great part in the sporting life of the northern port, where the lack of turf precludes the serious rivalry of cricket. The possibilities which the game affords in the way of social gatherings add very much to its popularity which is by no means confined to the British residents. Four years ago our German cousins "caught on" to the sport, and some of them are now formidable opponents and very keen players; our French and Russian neighbours are also very enthusiastic about the game, though they take it less seriously and more *pour passer le temps* than their fellow Aryans.

Our courts are either of chunam or of stiff mud rolled in with chopped straw; they play very accurately and very fast, but are a little more trying to the foot and eye than grass. As they are easily and cheaply repaired and kept in order, their aesthetic and sentimental disadvantages are more than made good.

For some years our play has been common-place, entirely evolved from the inner consciousness of the port, as the local satirist would say. Accurate placing on the back line, with good pace has been regarded as the climax of good play—cross volleying and the homicidal smash were never seen, so that there was a great flutter

in the local tennis cotes when we were re-enforced this spring by high talent fresh from careers of conquest at home, to say nothing of excellent consignments from the southern ports.

The spring Mixed Doubles showed that, like the people "down in Judea," we didn't know everything in Tientsin; the terrible offensive power of the fore and back-handed volley across the court came as a revelation to us, and caused much misgiving among the old stagers. The Championship consequently awoke an extrinsic interest, as it necessarily involved a contest of styles. The local sports gave heavy odds on the new school; the result has justified their choice but not their rashness in offering 4 and 3 to 1.

1ST ROUND.

J. M. Dickinson	beat	G. Mowkinh	6/5, 6/3
E. T. C. Werner	"	H. Börner	6/1, 6/2
O. Buchheister	"	H. Mandl	6/5, 6/0
C. Brewitt Taylor	"	A. W. H. Bellingham	(scratched.)
W. H. Forbes	"	J. H. Osborne	(scratched.)
C. Tulloch	"	G. Hyle	6/0, 6/0
L. A. Hughes	"	W. W. Dickinson	(scratched.)
E. B. Lees	"	W. T. L. Way	3/6, 6/3, 8/6.

In this round the games between Messrs. Werner and Börner; Buchheister and Mandl; Lees and Way; produced the best sport. The last pair gave a display of really high class tennis, illustrating in a most brilliant manner every possibility of the game. Mr. Lees never played so well in a match; Mr. Way came out in an entirely new light, playing with fine intelligence and severity.

2ND ROUND.

E. T. C. Werner	beat	J. M. Dickinson	6/1, 6/2
O. Buchheister	"	C. Brewitt Taylor	6/3, 6/3.
C. Tulloch	"	W. H. Forbes	6/0, 6/1
L. A. Hughes	"	E. B. Lees	6/1, 6/2

The most spirited fight in this round was between Lees and Hughes. The latter is a new immigrant from home, and has a powerful defence—his activity in the court and his recovery of hopeless balls are something phenomenal, and proved too much for the "cutting" offence of Lees who is rarely seen at his best in a match.

3RD ROUND.

O. Buchheister	beat	E. T. C.
Werner	.....	2/6, 6/3, 6/2
C. Tulloch	., L. A. Hughes	9/7, 6/1

This was "good men all." Mr. Buchheister who has steadily climbed from the bottom to the top of Tientsin tennis played a dashing brilliant game, and to the surprise of all the quidnuncs beat Mr. Werner who is steadiness personified. The latter gentleman usually accommodates his game to his opponent and beats him at it; he has all the qualifications for a dashing attack and might have won had he rushed up to smash as he well could; in playing for safety he lost the match. Mr. Werner is a great accession to Tientsin tennis. The Tulloch-Hughes match was a grand struggle. Over and over again Mr. Hughes' defence quite disconcerted his powerful opponent and it was only when 16 games had been played that Mr. Tulloch won. Exhaustion was the leading feature in their second set: Mr. Hughes is to be congratulated on showing such fine form against such powerful cross-volleying.

FINAL ROUND.

C. Tulloch	beat	O. Buchheister	7/5, 6/1;
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but only after a most stubborn and well fought battle in the first set. Mr. Buchheister played with great freedom and precision; his back-handed cuts from the corner of the left court came with unflinching accuracy and speed and over and over again beat Mr. Tulloch. At one time indeed he had apparently mastered the crack, who is, however, seen at his best in an up-hill game. Mr. Tulloch easily won.

the second set; for Mr. Buchheister the match was "defeat with honour," and he may take courage for the future.

Mr. Tulloch thus became runner-up for the championship; a most undoubted survival of the fittest for he excels at all points of the game; his pace and length from the back line are only equalled by the fine accuracy of his cross-volleying and the fatality of his smashes.

The championship newrested between Mr. McLeish, the holder, and Mr. Tulloch, the runner-up. The match between these two players was looked forward to with the greatest interest, as it involved not only a contest of radically different styles but also of ages and weights. Mr. Tulloch was generally expected to win and found support at 3 to 1. The match was played off on Tuesday last—an appallingly hot evening, before a large assembly of keenly interested spectators. For an hour and forty minutes they were kept in a state of breathless excitement by the finest display of tennis yet witnessed in Tientsin. Mr. McLeish winning the toss, elected to play against the fierce sun; notwithstanding this handicap, he secured the first game. Mr. Tulloch retaliated with a love ditto, under similar conditions. Mr. McLeish repaid him in kind only to suffer the same twice running (games 3-2, Tulloch leads). The sixth game was spectacular, the rests were prolonged and fought out to the last stroke. Four times the score went back to deuce and when at last after a seven minutes' struggle it went to the old resident, "even the ranks of Tuscany could scarce forbear to cheer." This close and eager tussle obviously showed that both players were in good form, (games three all). Mr. Tulloch was unmistakably put off his game and disconcerted by the judgment of his opponent in tossing high on to the back line; as sure as he ran up to kill, so surely had he to run back to "save;" wilfully he had to stay at the rear and fall in with the long-drive-hammer-and-tongs-keep-it-up-as-long-as-you-like style of game at which his opponent is so formidable. Mr. McLeish got the next game against the sun, but Mr. Tulloch promptly re-adjusted the balance. (Four all). Amidst wondering excitement the old hand got the ninth game, and this culminated when the tenth after another prolonged Homeric struggle also fell to him. (Set four.) In the old residents the pride of local habitation now awoke and manifested itself openly; the "certain victory" for the new-comer now looked anything but a sure thing.

In the second set Mr. Tulloch easily won the first two games, but on changing over, Mr. McLeish did the same, (two all); the fifth game also fell to the veteran, but the sixth after a grand display of cross-volleying, went to the younger man. (Three all) Mr. McLeish got the next two and when the voice of the umpire, called "Three-five, Mr. Tulloch's service," it seemed the knell of the latter's hopes; but Mr. Tulloch does not know when he is beaten and though now in desperate case, played up and had his reward in the ninth game (4-5, McLeish leads) "McLeish's service" "fifteen love;" "thirty love," then a hard volley across the court. "Forty love;" No! Tulloch scoops it up with his left hand, and though it is within running reach of his opponent, the latter is so astonished that he neglects it and thereby loses the game, the set, and as it turned out the championship.

Mr. Tulloch now played up like a veritable demon, won that game and the next (6-5, Tulloch leads). Mr. McLeish got the twelfth (6 all) but was beaten in the thirteenth and fourteenth. Set all! over an hour's struggle in deadly heat.

In the third set the dash of the younger man secured him the first game; steadiness and wise lobbing gave the second and third to the elder. (Two-one, Mr. McLeish leads) Mr. Tulloch's fine cross-volleying brought the games to two all. The fifth (love) and

sixth went against him (two-four, Tulloch's service); by a desperate effort he made it three-four. "McLeish's service" was called out and good service it proved for it easily won the eighth game. (Five-three McLeish wins) "Tulloch's service" "love fifteen" "love thirty" and now comes a ball which few eyes could judge—over or through? "Over" said the umpire to the visible discomfiture of the veteran who, however, brought the score to deuce before losing the game. He had once again brought the match to within two strokes of victory; (five-four, McLeish leads.) The tenth game went easily to Tulloch and then the ominous "Change courts" was given (Games-all). A level sun in Mr. McLeish's eyes gave Mr. Tulloch the eleventh game. (Six-five, Tulloch leads.) In the last three games he had rushed his opponent to defeat. A grand stand was made over the twelfth and last. Once again the rests were prolonged amidst breathless excitement. "Fifteen all, thirty all, deuce, 'vantage McLeish wins, deuce, 'vantage Tulloch wins," and then a very fine exhibition was closed by an easy return into the bosom of the net. Every rest in this last game was rounded off with cheers, and it was with quite a feeling of relief that the spectators saw the match finished.

Sets 2-1. Games 19-17. Strokes 113-103. As the combatants exchanged the usual courtesies the spectators fell on them with every demonstration of admiration for what had proved a splendid encounter.

The loser in the warmth of his friends' and neighbours' admiration must have thought that so close a contest with so good a man had at least redeemed the local game from contempt. While discussing and differing on the merits of steadiness and intelligence v. pluck and agility, all were united that the afternoon had witnessed at once the best tennis and most exciting match ever played in Tientsin.

26th June.

MOUNT OMI AND BEYOND.

峨眉山

A RECORD OF A JOURNEY ON THE TIBETAN BORDER:

BY ARCHD. J. LITTLE.

VI.

Winding to the left and creeping along close into the side of the precipice, the path having been washed out in places by the recent storms, we turned into a delightful side valley, and followed up an affluent of the 'Omi river until we came to the romantically situated temple and restaurant built astride the rocky peninsula dividing the two streams which unite at its foot. Two ancient stone bridges give access to the peninsula, crossing the deep gorge cut out by the roaring stream on either side of it, and provide this charming spot with its appropriate name of Soang-feich'iao,—"Pair of flying bridges." At the restaurant built on the point of the rock looking down into the foaming waters on either hand, we took our tiffin and discussed the advisability of making our first halt here,—for we felt we were satisfied and, whatever more might be in store for us further on, we wanted nothing better than this now. But we had barely risen 1,000 feet and it was hot. Tiffin finished, I scrambled down to the bottom of the glen and seated on a rock beside the limpid water at last found coolness and peace. Of the many natives in the temple and tea-house, none cared to follow me down here and I smoked a cigar undisturbed by requests to try its flavour or anxious enquiries as to the cost per foot of the flannel of my shirt. Great, however, as was our enjoyment of the spot, we found the temple too small and crowded to afford us the accommodation we required for ourselves and followers, so we decided

to go on to the renowned "Wannien-sze" or "Temple of ten thousand years," which forms usually the pilgrims' first halting-place in their ascent of the mountain.

While resting at the "Flying bridges" we were accosted by a pleasant-mannered Chinese who carried a butterfly net, and who actually seemed pleased to see us. Presently two more men joined him and they held boxes in which rows of the varied and gorgeous butterflies which adorn these valleys were neatly pinned down. They turned out to be collectors in the pay of Mr. Pratt and they were also Roman Catholic converts—a double title to our sympathy and which explained their friendliness. They offered to present us with many beautiful specimens which they declared to have no value, but we did not care to burden ourselves with them.

A further ascent of 1,000 feet brought us in good time to our destination for the present and terminus of our sedan-chair journey, Wannien-sze. The road crosses a wide valley, entered by the pass of Soang-feich'iao, from which once more a view of the Omi summit is obtainable; it then ascends a steep staircase, passing under a fortress-like archway with pavilion over it enclosing a shrine dedicated to Linghwan, "the soul," and entering an open court with temples on three sides. From the fourth side, and at right angles to the road by which we had entered, rises a succession of flights of stone steps, 15 or 20 feet wide, a grand staircase going up the only practicable approach to the flat-topped, steep-sided hill buttress upon which stand the ranges of temples and outbuildings known as Wannien-sze. Groves of fine old trees surround the entrance, and the air of repose and comfort which characterises Buddhist temples everywhere, is strongly impressed upon the weary pilgrim, inviting him to rest awhile in the sacred precincts before setting out upon his further 7,000 feet climb to the Holy of Holies on the top.

We were shown into a side courtyard with spacious guest-rooms, kitchens and servants' quarters built round it, a seemingly most delightful retreat after our late noisome quarters in the inns on the way. It was really 'ching' as the Chinese say, "peaceful," and, by shutting the outer door leading into the courtyard, we enjoyed absolute privacy. The drawbacks to this haven of rest were the dank vegetation and wet soil of the courtyard and the intolerable odours from the kitchen drains whenever the wind blew from that quarter. Lesser annoyances were the mosquitoes and scissor-grinders whose name was legion. However "Excelsior" was our motto and it only depended upon ourselves to ascend to a region where these plagues were unknown. Meanwhile we determined upon a few days' rest to enable us to recuperate and at the same time to explore the surrounding country and to examine at our leisure the antiquities in the temples in our immediate neighbourhood.

July 23rd.—Paid off our chair-coolies and porters, their contract terminating at Wannien-sze. The troublesome settlement with wrangles over the cash, the number on a string (there should be 1,000 but they are always short 20 to 30) the number of bad cash, (*mon chien*) the allowance for the days we halted at Kiating, and the determination of the customary bonuses,—occupied our boy pretty well all the morning. The total came to \$72 or, including inns and food, about £14 for over 300 miles' journey, which had occupied in all just 15 days.

We were now 3,000 feet above sea level and had reached the pleasant temperature of 79° day maximum and 72° night minimum. The air was balmy, but still relaxing. Szechuan air is distinguished by its dampness and stillness and these foot-hills of Mount Omi possess the same character. A wood surrounds the temple and continues up the hill-side, but the

clearings are getting yearly larger and our walks were mostly on paths leading through maize which grew over our heads and entirely shut out any light air that might be moving. Although the sun shone hotly in the intervals between the many showers usual here in summer, yet the higher mountains seemed constantly enveloped in cloud. The trees that mostly attracted our attention were the "lo-han" pine (*lo-han* or disciples of Buddha), and the omnipresent *hoangkō*. The temples themselves are by no means the always elegant and often exquisitely beautiful buildings one is accustomed to in other places. Those on Mount Omi are externally plain wooden buildings unpainted. Internally they are adorned with the profuse gilding and brilliant colours which one usually looks for in Chinese temples, Buddhist and Taoist alike. Most of them contain fragments of older and more elaborate buildings which have succumbed to fire or old age, and which the lessened religious feeling of later times has rebuilt on an inferior scale. Our own temple of Wannien-sze, although the residence of an abbot, contains little remarkable, but immediately behind it and forming part of the same range of buildings is the Chuan Tien which gives shelter to the most striking monument of these parts, viz., the image of Pusien seated on an elephant, a magnificent bronze casting on a colossal scale dating from the seventh century A.D. (period of the Tang dynasty), and which Baber reckoned as the greatest of his discoveries in this region, which he was the first European to explore. Mount Omi is specially sacred to Pusien who, the legend states, came across from India on his elephant and established himself on this mountain in the time of the Chin dynasty, A.D. 265-313. The image, which is almost pure copper, stands 16 Chinese feet high—over 17 English, and represents a young man with the usual Buddhist placid expression and the Buddhist exaggeration of feature: his elephant is only 11 feet high and looks dwarfed in comparison. A lotus flower resting on the animal's back forms the pedestal of the image. The temple enclosing the monument is, possibly with the exception of a few pagodas, the oldest extant building in China. It is built of small, very close-grained, hard-baked bricks, in the shape of a cube surmounted by a dome, utterly unlike anything Chinese. The exterior is not visible, being entirely hidden by the modern wooden building erected over it, an erection of rough unpainted wood, very unsightly and which absolutely precludes one from obtaining any view of the original building. This "protection" has more than once been destroyed by fire, on which occasions considerable damage has been done to the monument. No view or photograph can be taken of it: the "protection" forms part and parcel of the adjoining wooden temples and monks' dwellings which entirely surround it. One comes upon the monument in a hole and corner way and all "effect" is entirely destroyed. The inside walls are alone visible and the illustrations in Captain Gill's book (copied in the Reverend Virgil Hart's) are surely imaginary. Between the inside walls and the bronze image, a heavy stone palisade has been erected, some seven feet high, so that it is not easy to see anything at all in the gloom of the windowless building. This very solid palisade was only put up a few years back, to preserve the elephant from the assiduity of worshippers who, by the constant rubbing of copper cash on his limbs, were gradually destroying the beauty of their detail, which is very remarkable. Altogether the monument is a work of art of so finished execution and so true to nature that Baber is probably right in doubting its being a purely Chinese conception. The enclosing building forms a square of 40 feet inside measurement, the walls being about six feet thick; on these,

is built a hemispherical dome of which Baber remarks:—

"To the eye the architectural process of squaring the circle is perfectly simple: the dome springs from a rim which stands a little back from the circle thus formed and so gains a few additional feet of diameter and increased lightness of appearance."

Thousands of minute bronze Buddhas, placed in orderly rows on the edges of the bricks, decorate the interior wall: many of these are temporarily lodged there by Tibetan pilgrims who credit the images with superior sanctity after a residence in this holy spot has been gone through.

In Buddhist lore Pusien is Samanta Bhadra Bodhisatva. He is the god of action and his elephant signifies caution. Whether he was really an apostle from India or whether he ever existed in the flesh at all, there seems to be now no evidence to prove. In the different persecutions that Buddhism has from time to time been subject to since its introduction into China, and in the destruction of their shrines and temples during one or more of the periodical revolutions that have swept over the country like an all-destroying whirlwind, the old records have perished and, for what concerns the historical part of their religion, the priests of to-day have to fall back on a scanty tradition and a lively imagination. It was just after Buddhism had reached its culminating point that the Emperor Hien Tung, who reigned from A.D. 860-874, melted down the bronzes,—sacrificial vessels and images together,—into copper cash and made bonfires of the sacred books. Hence, even with the "Light of Asia" as a guide, it is difficult to feel a real interest in these old Buddhist worthies, who are objects of such sincere adoration by the Chinese, simply because it is impossible to feel sure that many, if not most, of them are not purely mythical. Pusien is lodged in the Ae-shu-chuan-tien (Brick Hall under Imperial edict), the central of the three temples erected under Imperial patronage and collectively known as Wannien-sze, a title which, meaning literally "The temple of 10,000 years," is in figurative language simply "His Imperial Majesty's temple." Our lodging is in the front temple called the Pi-lu-tien or Hall of Pili, a name of Buddha; one of the most notable images in it is that of Wen-shu (Manjusri), the God of Wisdom. He is represented seated on a lion, the emblem of courage. The rear-most of the three is the "Pure water pond"—Peh-shui-chih, or "New Hall." All three compete for the patronage of pilgrims, and a foreigner, when he has made a donation in the first hall, is a little surprised to be asked for more, as he passes into an adjoining courtyard, on the ground that the treasures and personnel of the three "Halls" are quite separate and distinct.

July 24th to July 27th.—We escaped from our malodorous courtyard by sitting under the magnificent trees on the steep hill-side, our ears stunned by scissor-grinders. Heavy showers alternated with hot sunshine,—real July weather. We roamed about the side valleys, took photographs, and wrote long letters home, boiled the thermometer regularly—showing an average of 206½ degrees Fahrenheit. The resultant altitude of 3,200 feet we found gave us a pleasant but still relaxing climate, on which long walks were a toil and the *dolce far niente* of a pipe on the grass only too seductive. We laid on the grass under the trees and played chess, thinking the while of Mortimer Collins' charming ode to chess played on the lawns of Richmond, and watching the throngs of pilgrims filing up the long wide staircase with their staves; men and women dressed in clean blue and white garments and shod with bright straw sandals, a rosette over the big toe and blue ribbons crossing the instep and tied above the ankle. Slung across their shoulders they carried the yellow incense bags (colour sacred to Bud-

dha and to the Emperor) out of which they lit the josssticks at each shrine, dropping 2 or 3 copper cash into the offertory, kneeling and bowing devoutly and then passing on up the mountain. For economy's sake the mass of the pilgrims make the whole ascent of 120 li in one day if they are able, and, marvellous to say, many goat-footed women are among the number! Seven thousand feet above us was, we knew, to be found a counterpart of the bracing air of our island home, and so we reluctantly determined to leave our Capua with its warmth and sunshine, and climb up to the mysterious cloudland which repelled as fully as much as it attracted us. We feared lest "striving to better, oft we mar what's well" should again prove only too true in our case, but go on we must, and so we made our arrangements to flit at early dawn next day. We reduced our baggage to six coolie loads and packed up all superfluities and left them together with our two sedan-chairs in charge of the Chief Priest, to be held to our order or until our return. We had accepted an invitation to dine with him on this our last day and soon after noon one of the acolytes called at our quarters to escort us to the banquet chamber: this was the reception room and it had been decorated for the occasion by red hangings from the tables and blue silk embroideries covering the chairs. This guest room was a spacious hall handsomely furnished with carved rosewood chairs and tables, the present of a wealthy official from the capital (Chêngtu). At the upper end was an altar with brass images and an incense burner and the walls were hung with *kakemonos* representing saints, sages, sacred texts, and laudatory and devout lucubrations presented by visitors celebrated for their calligraphy. The dining table was set out with the usual *hors d'œuvres* of melon-seeds, apricot seeds, sugared walnuts, sweet cakes and comfits, but with tea (grown on the mountain) for an accompaniment,—wine, as well as fish, flesh, and fowl being of course religiously excluded. We sat down four;—our two selves, our boy, who as *Kiansze* (Gen. Man. or Gentlemenly Manager would be Burnand's translation) is a "personage" and no small one either, and the Chief Priest, whose joining himself in the feast conferred a distinguished honour on us. After nibbling away about an hour and hearing till we were tired out of the poverty of the temple and its pressing needs, the dinner proper was served; this consisted of nine dishes, prepared, of course, from vegetables alone, and strange to say, we found every one of the nine dishes most excellent. In ordinary Chinese dinners there is too much lard used in frying to please the European palate, but here, where all animal fat is forbidden, *ts'ai you* or rape-seed oil is the medium, and very good we found everything. We particularly admired a curious dish of the yellow-flour cakes, a sweet soup with ground-nuts, and a preparation of bean curd with chopped mushrooms inside, reminding one of the flavour of toasted cheese. After the dinner came the "Yuan-pu" or subscription book of the temple, a large album-like volume in which benefactors write their donations on huge "cards" of red paper which are pasted in, two to a page. Now came the tug of war. The priest wanted (so he said) one hundred taels or at least a "feng," as a shoe of sycee—fifty taels—is called hereabouts. We humbly suggested ten taels, pleading we had a long journey before us, and, as this is fully equivalent to a £10 donation in Europe, we thought we were being fairly liberal. Then the priest said, we were surely not going to give less than an American missionary who had been there the summer before and he triumphantly turned up a card upon which was written in big characters,

Great Empire of America

Loo-ee-si

Sixty taels.

This was a stumper, although we felt sure it could not be true. (We afterwards enquired of Mr. Lewis, who told us the amount was about six taels for a longer stay and a larger party.) At length I took the brush in my hand to write and had just written

Great Empire of England
British merchant
Lee-teh-ló,

and was commencing the word "ten" when an acolyte snatched the pen from my fingers. Ultimately after a long squabble and pointing out that we had many more temples to subscribe to, I succeeded in sticking to my original sum, much to their apparent chagrin but to the credit of "foreign" determination. "They mean what they say," our boy explained to them.

The afternoon turned out very hot and close, so we ascended by 1,000 stone steps to a knoll where we found a slight breeze and the air perceptibly cooler. We enjoyed a lovely view, looking down on Wannien-sze, and the headland on which it stands, jutting out from an amphitheatre of steep forest-clad mountains, through which the Omi stream appears to have scooped out a wide valley with precipitous limestone walls. All above was cloud-land notwithstanding that the walls below were gilded with the setting sun, and that through the gap by which we had entered the mountain the plain of Kiating (if one may so call it by comparison) was distinctly visible fading away into the dark distance of the Eastern horizon. Some peasants warned us to hurry back and not be out in the woods after dark: a party of five men were recently attacked by a tiger and all killed;—recently may mean, however, at any time within the memory of men now living. No doubt the extensive clearings and the supplanting the forests by maize-fields has largely reduced the number of wild animals which abound in the surrounding ranges. Omi itself, at least the Eastern slopes, may now be looked upon as a completely civilised mountain; the wilderness proper begins on the Western slope.

Returned at dusk and was nearly eaten up by mosquitoes while taking my bath—had to have a coolie to fan them off. Got everything ready for an early start before retiring.

(To be continued.)

THE CHILDREN'S COLUMN.

AMONG THE PINK BLOSSOMS.

It was such a tall straggly tree, its slight trunk curving upwards like a tress of long brown hair, and its thinly grown branches, laden with delicate pink blossoms, hung drooping down like those of the graceful weeping willow. It was quite a young tree and the rounded curves of its branches at the top made it look like a waterfall, but for all that no human being had noticed it, for it grew on a desert island and belonged only to God. It was at the foot of this tree that a little canary came hopping by, pecking at the ground and wending his way in and out of the luxuriant flowers that grew all around. He was thoroughly happy, found lots to eat, the day was hot, and he liked to feel the warm breeze on his little body. Quite at the foot of the tree he paused and looked about him as we often see birds do, and wonder if they are really thinking of anything. After a few minutes' rest and cogitation, he was just about to hop off when a sound above him made him look up; it came like a quiet "sweet," but it was a much longer-drawn-out word, and came forth quite softly, perhaps a little hesitatingly. The canary looked up, his head wondering on one side, and one leg before him ready for action if any enemy was near. However, he only saw a very familiar sight, another little canary, very like himself, perched on

a frail branch among the pink blossoms, so frail that even the weight of the little bird's tiny body forced it to sway gently up and down.

"Please don't come up," exclaimed the lofty one.

"I had no idea of it," returned the lowly one; "but I don't in the least see why I shouldn't if I choose."

"You are very rude, sir," cried she, "I merely ask you not to come as this tree happens to be mine."

"Yours? And pray who made it yours? The trees are free to us all."

"It's mine, because no one else seems to frequent it; you all prefer the other side of the island. I am going to live here."

"Oh!" he said, and then asked:—"What is your name? I don't think I've ever seen you before."

She laughed saucily. "My name is Nara, and of course you haven't seen me before. I have only just arrived; what is your name?"

"My name is Tano," he returned, straining his head that he might the better see the brilliant spot of yellow up among the pink blossoms.

"But what do you mean about only just arriving?"

"Oh! dear," she said; "how narrow-minded people get who never travel."

"Have you travelled?"

"Of course, or how should I have got here?"

"I don't know," he answered.

"I should think not, you don't appear to know much any way."

He was silent.

"Well, dull one," cried she.

"How did you get here?" asked Tano, ignoring her disrespectful salute.

"How do we generally get to places?" she said, though her eyes twinkled. "I came however in a ship, part of the way, and the rest I flew."

"A ship, and where did it come from?"

"I'm sure I don't know."

"You don't know where you came from?"

"Of course I do."

"You said you didn't."

"I said no such thing; you asked me where the ship came from."

He smiled, accepted the reproof, and again asked. "And you?"

"Oh! I came from home."

There was a pause after that; the branch continued to sway, but Tano did not look up. This was very strange; he knew she was not one of the birds of the island, for every young lady canary was well known to him, and as there was no other island as far as the oldest resident bird knew within flying distance, he was at a loss to know where this coquettish little person came from. She certainly was very sweet to look at, and perhaps her accent was just a little strange. She was greener about the plumage too, perhaps, than his young lady friends.

"Hallo!" came almost in his ear, and to his amazement when he raised his head with a start he found she was hanging at the very end of one of the frailest branches on the tree, almost touching the ground and looked as if she might fall at any moment. "Please don't," he begged, while she laughed and pulled at her tender support so that the blossoms loosened and fell around them, and then when she saw Tano look thoroughly unhappy she laughed again and flew back to her old spot.

"We haven't got these trees at home," she announced.

"No?" he said.

"No, but your island is not to be compared to my home."

"Tell me of it," he ventured.

"Oh, yes," she returned; "it isn't as big as this, but it is far lovelier and it is also the home of the first generation of fairies."

"Indeed?"

"Yes; we have every fruit ever created, every flower that ever grew, but in shades

that no human eye has ever seen; our trees are beyond description, and it is the only island where entire happiness abounds."

"If that is the case," said Tano, "how is it you come to be blessed with the gift of repartee and a love of provoking?" She laughed again. "That's what I said; you are narrow-minded, but I have had a varied life. I have travelled a great deal; we all travel."

"Do you return?"

"Oh! yes, always; there is trouble everywhere but in our island."

"Perhaps you will take me?"

"Alas! no, that would mean death to you. Only those who are fortunate enough to be born there can live; strangers all die."

"What, in such a happy land?"

She nodded. "You must go away now," she said, gaily. "I am going to build."

"To build, and alone, and in that tree, there are not enough leaves on it, and it is not shady enough." "Pooh," cried she, "you go away to your thick bushes and be happy. I'm all right."

But he lingered, however, though she took no more notice of him, and he had to be content at last to fly home. His happiness died with that first look into the pink-blossomed tree when he saw the little patch of greenish yellow so provokingly perched above. Now he was miserable, he wanted to stay with her, to help her build and assist her in every way, but she had ignored him, and he was desolate.

At an early hour he went to rest, but was unable to sleep thinking of the island where happiness alone was found, of the flowers in shades unknown, and of trees of rare beauty. In the morning his sad aspect was noticed by his friends, mothers advised numerous medicines, his young lady friends spoiled him, twittering around him, for he was a general favourite, and the others chaffed him from time to time on his preference for solitude. Towards noon again he flew rapidly away to the other and less frequented part, owing to a scarcity of trees, of the island. Nara was there, but there was not even a scrap of moss towards the building of the nest.

"Good gracious!" she cried, "I hope you are not going to pester me by coming here every day; why how dejected you look. Oh! do go away."

"But I am sad."

"Oh! heaven! I hate sad birds, go, go for goodness' sake."

"Will you come too?"

"With you?" in a horrified voice.

"Yes—why not?"

"You are so, so awful."

"Oh! Nara!" cried Tano, "and I want to be beautiful for you."

"Well! I'm sure you needn't trouble yourself, for no one could fall in love, not even, I should think, the common-place birds of your very ordinary island, with a dejected thing like you." And here she began to sing, not as it were to change the conversation, but as if she had intended to sing at that very moment and was carrying out her intention. It was a joyous lengthy song, thoroughly enjoyed, and Tano knew she was a well trained singer.

When she ceased, he sighed and said "Oh! how I wish I could go to your land."

"Well, you can't, and that's enough," she responded.

But all through that day as he saw her from time to time always perched on her frail branch—a patch of greenish yellow among the pink—he continued to tell her of his desire to see her island, to travel, to be less narrow-minded. She only laughed and sang and thought him a nuisance, but Tano visited her every day and pleaded anew till she became tired of his continual request and was less provoking. At last one day she announced her intention of leaving; she was tired of the quiet island and more tired of poor little Tano.

"And will you take me?" he asked eagerly.

"No, I will not," she said.

"When do you leave?"

"Oh! I am not going to tell you or you would bother me."

"No, I will not."

"You promise?"

"Yes."

"Well, I am leaving to-night."

"In the dark?"

"Yes, in the dark."

Soon after that he flew away, home to his nest, and thought a great deal. He must go too—he must see that island—he would follow. So by dark he had managed to creep to the foot of Nara's tree unobserved, where he looked up and strained his neck to see her. She was chirping merrily above. By and by she flew to the ground and so close to Tano that he trembled in fear. She hopped about and looked around her; seemed unable to make up her mind to start and then before he was aware of it, started up from the ground and was lost to sight in the darkness. He followed in what he imagined was her course, and overtook her after a swift flight; he was already tired, but she flew on ahead as easily as possible, and so swiftly that Tano had much trouble in keeping up with her, and the night was so dark that he could scarcely see her, besides the wind from the sea as they passed over it blew his little body almost to pieces. Towards dawn with Nara still ahead, he felt almost ready to fall, there was no land in sight, nothing but an angry sea, and Nara forever flying on and on. Once he called aloud in his weariness "Nara! Nara! I am here." But the wind and sea refused to carry on his feeble cry and it was drowned in the noise. A whole day fled and before night they came upon some rocks. Tano hurried on and sought refuge on the nearest he could, but to his horror he saw Nara passing them by without even a glance. Poor Tano fought within himself for some moments, keeping his eye on Nara's retreating form. If he remained he must die as he could never find his way back again; if he went on, well, he must die too, but to die near Nara and in an island full of unknown beauties was the better death of the two; he lifted his tiny wings and followed. Relief, however, came to him in the shape of a large sailing vessel on which he observed Nara alight. Unobserved he followed, but seeing her settle herself in the rigging he flew upon the deck quite unacquainted with the ways and doings of ships. In a moment he was pounced upon by a dozen men, held in the hand of one and shown round as a great prize. He was too feeble to even flutter.

"Poor little wretch," said one old sailor; "he's dead beat, give him some bread and water."

They stuffed it down his throat, and he revived considerably. He could see Nara up above and he knew then that she could see him and understood what had occurred. In a few minutes an old cage was produced and Tano imprisoned within its bars, hung on a nail outside a cabin, and much admired and consoled till dark fell upon them and he was taken within for the night. In the early morning Nara came through the top of the open window into the cabin and looked through the bars of Tano's cage.

"You have done a nice thing for yourself," she said; "so you followed me."

"Yes," he replied feebly.

"Well, I have a week yet to travel before I get home—are you fit to do it?"

"You see how it is," he cried.

"If you think you can come, I'll undo the door of your cage and will take you with me, but I doubt if we shall find another vessel, and I leave this one at noon, as she goes out of my course."

Tano considered; the sorrow was more than he could bear. Imprisoned for life or death.

"Nara," he said, "you have been very cruel."

"I do not dispute it," she returned; "but that is not the point; will you come?" He shook his head. "No," he sobbed, "No. I cannot come. I am not strong enough and cannot give up my life for only one sight of your beautiful land."

"The flowers are exquisite," she murmured; "their tints are unknown to man, and there are birds with shape and plumage so beautiful that only those who have seen them can conceive. Our trees—"

"Oh! don't, don't," he cried, "go away; I don't want you."

"Have you ever seen a fairy?" she questioned, "the sweetest, frailest little creature, with—"

"Go, go," he shouted, and she obeyed laughingly. "Well, good bye, my friend," she called out from her perch on the top of the open window, "long life to you and a merry one!"

That was all; Nara was gone and Tano was left. Nara flew to the home she never tired of talking of, and Tano remained imprisoned in his cage, alone and lonely.

TERRIFIC EXPLOSION AT CANTON.

400 HOUSES DESTROYED.

Information has been received of the occurrence of a terrible explosion at the Government gunpowder magazine at Canton on the afternoon of the 24th inst. We learn from the *Chung Ngai San Po* that about five o'clock the inhabitants of the Sam Un Li district, in which the magazine stands, were startled by a tremendous report which was heard over a large area and followed by enormous volumes of smoke quite darkening the sky in the immediate neighbourhood. Very quickly it was known far and wide that a terrible calamity had occurred, and although the full extent has not yet been ascertained it is feared that the loss is very serious. Every building in the vicinity was completely wrecked and in a village on the opposite side of the stream which divided it from the factory several hundred houses were destroyed. The total number of houses destroyed is approximated at 400, and although no idea has been formed of the loss of life, this must be considerable, while it is estimated that 300 persons were more or less injured. The catastrophe originated, it appears, from a cook house near the magazines which caught fire and rapidly spread to the dangerous material stored closed by. On hearing the explosion the inhabitants of the villages rushed out in great alarm and proclaimed the disaster by the beating of gongs and drums, urging the villagers to run into the fields for their lives. The mandarins were quickly informed and troops were sent for. A number of Chinese doctors and one European were speedily on the scene of the explosion rendering assistance to the wounded.—*Daily Press*.

THE SILVER CRISIS IN HONGKONG.

The *Daily Press* of the 26th ult. writes as follows:—

The expectancy of a seigniorage being charged upon the coinage of silver in India is having a serious effect upon the commercial relations of the Far East with that country. We learn that on Friday £370,000 worth of bar silver was shipped from London to India and the week before £250,000. Banks were willing to give 38d. per ounce for the metal if shipped by last mail and the nominal quotation for this week is 37½d., there being no buyers at this rate. As we stated some time ago shipments of dollars have recently been made from Hongkong to India, but these even have stopped owing to the uncertainty

as to the result of the Herschell Committee's report.

On the 27th ultimo the same paper writes:—

Telegrams were received from Calcutta and Bombay late yesterday evening that the Mints at both ports are now closed against bar silver and that the Banks in the meantime refuse to name a buying rate for bills on London.

On the same date it prints the following telegram which was forwarded on the 26th to H.E. the Viceroy of India, Lord Lansdowne, on behalf of merchants engaged in Hongkong in the Indian trade:—

"His Excellency the Viceroy of India, Simla.

"All merchants engaged in Indian trade Hongkong earnestly urge Viceroy take no steps calculated to injure Indian trade with China. At present it is impossible to get remittances to India, Banks fearing closing mints, a protected rupee and unprotected dollar. Indian business at a standstill in the meantime."

In an editorial in its issue of the 28th, the *Daily Press* mentions that the telegraphic transfer rate was the lowest on record, 2s. 6¾d., and was expected to fall still further. Silver mines would have to be closed (as we knew yesterday they are to be) and a reaction would doubtless follow, but meanwhile the trade between India and China would be paralysed, to the advantage of Japan, and the Hongkong sterling loan recently contracted on the basis of 2s. 10d. would be made a much heavier burden on the colony.

The *Daily Press* said on the 29th ult.:—

The price of bar silver has further fallen from 36d. to 35d. on the London market and from 79 to 76 cents in New York.

Exchange on London yesterday was quoted 2s. 6½d. T.T. and 2s. 6¾d. demand.

There are no quotations for exchange between China and India, but it is believed it might be possible to arrange remittances at 190 to 191 rupees per hundred dollars as against 217 rupees a few days ago.

Advices received confirm the probability of the repeal of the Sherman Act.

There is a very uneasy feeling in commercial circles.

On the 30th ult. it writes:—

Yesterday saw a further fall in exchange and the price of bar silver.

On the London market the price of bar silver receded from 35d. per ounce to 33d., with no buyers.

On the New York market the price receded from 76 cents to 69 cents, with no buyers. A panic prevails. A number of failures have taken place in America, but fortunately they are not connected with China.

In India no business is being done in sterling exchange. Three months' credits have declined from 1s. 4½d. to 1s. 4d., with no sellers of drafts on London.

In Hongkong the rate yesterday opened at 2s. 6d. T.T., as against 2s. 6½d. the previous day, and after receipt of the news of the collapse in America and India the market closed very weak, in fact with no sellers of drafts on London at any price.

Indian merchants bought rupees yesterday at 189 per 100 dollars as against 217 a few days ago.

Exchange in London. 60 days' sight, against outward shipments to Hongkong, was 2s. 4½d.

A deplorable feeling of tension and uncertainty exists everywhere, no one knowing what is going to happen.

The following telegram in answer to that despatched to H.E. the Viceroy of India by Messrs. David Sassoon, Sons & Co., on behalf of the merchants of Hongkong engaged in the India trade, was received yesterday:—

"Messrs. David Sassoon, Sons & Company, Hongkong.—Viceroy desires me to

acknowledge your telegram twenty-sixth. You are no doubt by this time fully aware of the action which has been taken by the Government of India.—

"FINANCE."

"Simla, 28th June, 1893."

While it said on the 1st instant:—

Yesterday saw a further decline of 2½. in the rate of exchange, yesterday's quotation being 2s. 4d. T.T. as against 2s. 6d. the previous day.

The rate on India was 176 rupees per 100 dollars as against 189 rupees the previous day.

In America the price of bar silver was 65 cents. The position of affairs in that country is creating a great deal of uneasiness. Business is at a standstill and all rates are purely nominal.

The Bombay market is quite collapsed and there is absolutely no business doing. The Indian rate on London was 1s. 3½d. T.T. and 1s. 4d. three months' credit.

RUDYARD KIPLING AGAIN.

The following is the complete text of the new poem of which we printed one stanza a fortnight ago:—

THE UNLISTED LEGION.

A BANJO SONG.

[An informal gathering of gentlemen interested in the colonial expansion of the Empire was held recently in a London restaurant. The proceedings were not reported, but . . .]

DAILY PAPER.)

There's a Legion that never was 'listed
That carries no colours or crest,
But split in a thousand detachments,
Is breaking the road for the rest.
Our fathers they left us their blessing,
They taught us and groomed us and cramed,

But we've shaken the clubs and the messes
To go and find out and be damned,
Dear boys!
To go and get shot and be damned.

So some of us chevy the slaver,
And some of us cherish the black,
And some of us hunt on the Oil Coast
And some on the Wallaby track.
And some of us drift to Sarawak,
And some of us drift up The Fly,
And some share our tucker with tigers
And some with the gentle Masai,
Dear boys!
Take tea with the giddy Masai.

We've painted The Islands vermilion,
We've perled on half-shares in the Bay;
We've shouted on seven-ounce nuggets;
We've starved on a Kanaka's pay.
We laughed at the World as we found it—
Its women and cities and men—
From Sayyid Burgash in a tantrum
To the smoke-reddened eyes of Loben,
Dear boys!
We've a little account with Loben.

We've opened the Chinaman's oil-wells,
But the dynamite didn't agree,
And the people got up and *fai-kwaed* us
And we ran from 'chang to the sea.
Yes, somehow and somewhere and always
We were first when the trouble began—
From a lottery-row in Manila
To an I. D. B. race on the Pan,
Dear boys!
With the Mounted Police on the Pan.

We preach in advance of the Army,
We skirmish ahead of the Church,
With never a gunboat to help us
When we're scuppered and left in the lurch,
But we know as the cartridges finish
And we're filed in our last little shelves
That the Legion that never was 'listed
Will send us as good as ourselves—
(Good men)
Five hundred as good as ourselves.

Then a health (we must drink it in whispers)
To our wholly unauthorised horde—
To the line of our dusty foreloppers
The Gentlemen-Rovers abroad!

Here's a health to ourselves ere we scatter,

For the steamer don't wait for a train,
And the Legion that never was 'listed
Goes back into quarters again,
Regards!

Goes back under canvas again,
Hurrah!

The swag and the billy again,
Here's how!

The trail and the pack-horse again,
Salve!

The trek and the laager again!

Law Reports.

H.B.M.'s POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, 3rd July.

Before G. JAMIESON, Esq., Assistant Judge.
R. v. KENEALLY.

Maurice Keneally, A.B., belonging to the s.s. *Telemachus*, was charged with being drunk and incapable in Broadway on Sunday.

Detective Horley informed his Worship that the accused had been arrested on three occasions previously for drunkenness, but had been released. The *Telemachus* was to leave on Wednesday.

Accused admitted being drunk.

His Worship fined him \$2, and costs, and ordered him to be put on board, the Chief Officer at the same time to be directed to stop his leave.

MIXED COURT.

Shanghai, 6th July.

Before Mr. TSAI, Mixed Court Magistrate, and Mr. W. S. EMENS, U.S. Assessor.

A native of Shaohsing, for stealing from a house in Hankow Road and picking pockets in Forchow Road, was sentenced to two weeks' imprisonment and cautioned to leave the Settlement. Two Shanghai men, for assault and stealing a watch from the person, were sentenced to one week's imprisonment each. The watch was recovered. A Hankow Road mafuo was fined \$3 for furious driving in Nanking Road. Two Soochow boys were sentenced, one to 100 strokes on the "hand" and the other to one month's imprisonment, for stealing jewellery valued at \$35 all of which was recovered. Two natives of Ningpo and a native of Paoshan got two weeks' imprisonment for assaulting a man in Swatow Road. A native of Kading was ordered to be locked up for two weeks for assaulting a female in Canton Road. A native of Anhui was ordered 200 blows and to be deported to Wuhu for unlawful possession of clothing valued at \$3, and for returning from deportation. A native of Shanghai was fined \$1 for an assault in the Market in Nanking Road. A Soochow man, the proprietor of the Hupeh Road Theatre, was cautioned not to sell liquor without a licence. An unemployed Ningpo man, having assaulted another man, was ordered to pay the complainant 50 cents. He was also ordered to find security for his future good behaviour.

DOWN THE MOUNTAIN TO DEATH.

At four o'clock on the morning of November 8th, 1875, an express train on the Lehigh Valley Railway, in America, was on the top of a mountain, eighteen miles above the city of Wilkesbarre. Among the passengers were the President of the United States and several members of his Cabinet, in a special coach. From this point the grade was very steep, and the road full of curves. It was the custom to keep the brakes set all the way down. If they failed, disaster was sure to follow. Within a minute after the train started, the driver noticed that something had suddenly gone wrong with the brakes. The train kept pushing the engine. He reversed, but with-

out checking the speed. Seeing this, the guard and one or two other train men jumped, and escaped with only slight injuries. The train now ran faster and faster, and a horrible death seemed waiting for all on board. The driver blew the whistle continuously to warn trains at the foot of the mountain of his approach. When the runaway passed Nescopeck station it was going at the rate of nearly seventy miles an hour, and the faithful driver stood at his post, bareheaded, holding on, and still blowing the whistle. At the foot of the mountain all the trains had got out of the way except the rear end of a coal train which was just shunting. Into this the passenger train dashed with a crash that was heard for miles around, knocking the coal cars in all directions. The passengers were badly shaken, and some were bruised, but none were killed. But where was the brave driver? From under the wreck of the overturned engine he was taken an hour afterwards, crushed and dying, but still able to speak. "Is the President safe?" he gasped. "Yes, and everybody else," was the answer. "Thank God for that," he said, and never spoke again.

A splendid deed, truly, yet there is not a driver in a hundred who would not have stood to his duty with the same fidelity. Exposed to all sorts of weather, to constant danger, and laden with responsibility, the engine drivers have a commendable record, and deserve higher appreciation both by the companies and by the public.

"I am an engine driver," says Edward Roberts, "and have been for eleven years. My health was always good until July, 1885. Then something came over me that I couldn't account for. I felt tired, sleepy, and languid. My stomach felt sour and cold, my mouth tasted awfully bad, and my tongue was thickly coated. A disagreeable fluid came up into my mouth, and my appetite failed. No food, however light, agreed with me, and I had great pain after eating anything at all. In ten minutes my stomach would be all in a ferment, and swell like a balloon does when the gas is running into it. I had also a miserable tightness around my chest and sides. Later on I had awful pain in the kidneys. I could not rest at night; I had dreadful dreams, and would turn and turn in bed, but found no ease.

"As time went on I got weaker and weaker until I could scarcely crawl to my work, but having a large family to support I struggled on as best I could, when many another would have been confined to bed. As it was, my suffering was so great that I went to bed as soon as I returned from my work. For over four years I went on in this fashion, about half alive and half dead, obtaining no relief from the medicines the doctors gave me. I took six bottles of pepsine, but it did no good, neither did the seven bottles of a medicine we sent over and got from Dublin.

"In May, 1890, a lady who called at my house, told me of a medicine called Mother Seigel's Syrup, and recommended me to try it; so I got a bottle from Mr. Wilson, at Drug Hall, Holyhead, and began taking it. In a week I felt better, my stomach was easier, and my food digested and I gradually gained strength. By the time I had taken six bottles I was as strong as ever. I could eat anything and have kept well ever since. I have told of my recovery everywhere, and many of my friends have used the Syrup with benefit. I wish my experience to be published, and will reply to inquiries about my case.

(Signed) "EDWARD ROBERTS,

"No. 9, Tyn Pwll Road, Holyhead."

What originally brought on this wretched attack of indigestion and dyspepsia—which through lack of the proper remedy became chronic—Mr. Roberts does not say, even if he knows. Probably the cause was exposure, and a hasty and irregular habit of eating. At all events he was fortunate in learning of Mother Seigel's Syrup before it was too late. We congratulate him on this point, and are confident his frank statement will be of use to others of his honourable and responsible calling.

For one, the writer of these lines never lies comfortably back on the cushions in a first-class carriage on the excellent North-Western Railway without hoping (selfishly enough, to be sure) that all is well in mind and body with the man who drives the iron horse.

(6) 30ju, 7 & 14jy 91

Miscellaneous Intelligence.

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.

Per str. *Rosetta*, for London—Mr. C. M. Centerville. For Hongkong—Messrs. Hillebrandt, Lew, Mackintosh and Liyo-shan. For Colombo—Mr. Brettell.

Per str. *Ozus*, for Japan—Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Graham. Mr. and Mrs. Goodfellow, Mrs. and Miss Wortmann, Miss Legerton, Mrs. Goldberg, Mr. and Mrs. Houston and 3 children, Miss Lattimore, Mr. and Mrs. J. Drummond, Miss Morley, Mr. and Mrs. Bailie and child, Mrs. Landry, Messrs. Isgavishoff, Weinberg, Martinet, Allene and Bernardi.

Per str. *Saikio Maru*, for Nagasaki—Mrs. Dowdall, 6 children and nurse, Rev. and Mrs. Bentley and 2 children, Dr. Ivy, Capt. Nodop, Messrs. J. S. Fearon, F. M. Gratton, A. W. Bowman, P. Dowdall, W. McMinamin, Wm. Meyerink and T. Tochika. For Vladivostok—Master Lanning and a child. For Kobe—Mrs. Carles, 3 children and nurse, Rev. and Mrs. Hendry, Mr. and Mrs. Sugden and child, Mr. and Mrs. Merrill and 2 children, Rev. and Mrs. Symons and 3 children, Rev. and Mrs. Tatum and 2 children, Miss Viloudaki, Sir Gervas Glyn, Lieut-General S. Kawakami, Lients. Y. Tamura, G. Sakata and G. Shiba, Rev. M. B. Hill, Messrs. A. W. James and T. Bassett. For Yokohama—Miss J. Davies, Mesdames J. S. Fearon and 2 children, F. R. Greaves and 3 children, Lysle and V. Maxwell, Dr. Malherbe, Messrs. R. de Malherbe, C. Shun-fong and S. Sun Wo. For San Francisco—Mrs. McMichael and child. For London—Mr. G. A. Watkins.

Per str. *Hsinchi*, for Chefoo—Misses (2) Williams.

Per str. *Tungchow*, for Chefoo—Mrs. C. Dowdall. For Tientsin—H. E. Herr von Schenck Baron zu Schweinsberg.

Per str. *Chungking*, for Chefoo—Mrs. Hutchison, Mrs. E. H. and Misses (2) Lavers.

Per str. *Fooksang*, for Fochow—Misses (2) Siemssen and Mr. Nicolle.

Per str. *Poyang*, for Hankow—Dr. Collins.

Per str. *Fuhco*, for Chinking—Mr. Carles.

Per str. *Pekin*, for Ningpo—Mrs. Rawlinson.

Per str. *Kiangteen*, for Ningpo—Mr. A. Mendel.

Per str. *Haean*, for Tientsin—Mrs. Crowlie.

Per str. *Lienshing*, for Chefoo—Rev. and Misses (2) Macgowan and Mr. Brode.

Per str. *Kiangkwan*, for Wuhu—Rev. Louais. For Ngankung—Rev. Lequelle.

Per str. *Haean*, for Tientsin—Messrs. Newmarch, Golland and Bourne.

Per str. *Fangshun*, for Tientsin—Mr. Pinnard.

Per str. *Kiangyü*, for Hankow—Mr. Carl Beck and servant.

Per str. *Hsiangyü*, for Tientsin—Mr. Gatrell.

Per str. *Hsinfung*, for Hongkong—Mr. P. H. Nolting.

Per str. *Hsinchi*, for Chefoo—Miss Corne.

ARRIVED.

Per str. *Malaca*, from London for Shanghai—Mr. R. S. and Miss Raphael, Messrs. J. L. Newmarsh, Bowrne, Golland and James Maxwell.

Per str. *Ozus*, from Marseilles for Shanghai—Mrs. Funagalli, Mrs. Grape, Miss Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. Calvet. From Singapore—Messrs. Launay and Waschi and Japanese.

From Saigon—1 Chinese. From Hongkong—Mrs. Salter, Messrs. Antea, Firon, Pinard, Stern, W. H. Wilkinson and 2 children, Weill, Oliveira and Abbe Robert.

Per str. *Catterthun*, from Sydney, N.S.W.—Mr. Donald Stewart.

Per str. *Yokohama Maru*, from Japan, etc.—Miss Gatrell, Messrs. Ezra, Turnbull, J. S. Fearon, Shimiojo, A. Traval, Gatrell, P. H. Nolting and Yoshijima, Rev. W. J. McKee and Father F. Cissier.

Per str. *Feilung*, from Moji—Mr. Oberg and servant.

Per str. *Pekin*, from Ningpo—Mr. and Mrs. Merrill and 1 child, Mr. and Mrs. Symons and 3 children, Dr. and Mrs. Browning and child.

Per str. *Lienshing*, from Tientsin and Chefoo—Mr. J. and Mrs. Dick, Messrs. F. Souter and H. W. Daniel.

Per str. *Tehhsing*, from Hankow—Mr. Haimovitch.

Per str. *Kiangteen*, from Ningpo—Mrs. Kultzu and 4 children.

Per str. *Kiangkwan*, from Hankow—Rev. Pennors and Capt. Woo King Yung.

Per str. *Taiyang*, from Hongkong—Miss Colgan, Master and Miss Wadilove and Mr. Parlane.

Per str. *Poyang*, from Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. Theodore and Mr. St. Croix.

Per str. *Yuenoo*, from Hankow—Messrs. von der Leithen, Schlee and Who Tong and 1 seaman (H.M.S. *Esk*).

Per str. *Sual*, from Hankow—Mrs. Robert.

Per str. *Kiangteen*, from Ningpo—Mr. Mendel.

Per str. *Kiangyü*, from Hankow—Messrs. Nicolle and Gordon.

Per str. *Yangching*, from Swatow and Amoy—Mr. Wilkinson.

Per str. *Fooksang*, from Fochow—Mr. McDaniel.

Per str. *Glengyle*, from Hongkong—Mr. Morris.

Per str. *Hangchow*, from Swatow—Miss McArthy.

Per str. *Chungking*, from Tientsin—Mr. Loup.

Per str. *Wuchang*, from Tientsin and Chefoo—Messrs. Blanchard, Bowman (U.S. Consul) and son and Gibson.

Per str. *Hsiangyü*, from Tientsin and Chefoo—Mr. and Mrs. Kierulff.

Per str. *Ngankin*, from Hankow—Messrs. A. J. Brown, Chang, Ling and Ho.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer.		Wind.	Hygrometer at 8 A.M.		Thermometer in shade.		Initials.
	9 A.M.	Attached Therm.		Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	Max.	Min.	
July 1	29.58	55.0	S.S.E.	3	75.0	78.0	72.0	B.
2	29.90	84.5	"	3	84.5	77.5	92.0	B.
3	29.90	82.0	N.	3	82.0	78.0	92.0	B.
4	29.85	83.0	N.	2	83.0	80.0	89.0	B.
5	29.85	84.0	S.W.	2	84.0	81.0	89.0	B.
6	29.88	84.0	S.W.	2	84.0	77.0	90.0	B.
7	29.92	85.0	S.W.	2	85.0	77.0	91.0	B.

EXPLANATION.

Initials:—b, blue sky; c, clouds; f, fog; h, hail; l, lightning; m, misty (hazy); o, overcast (dull); r, rain; s, snow; e, thunders; z, calm. Force from 1 to 12, estimated.

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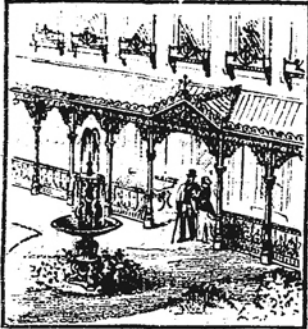
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20th May, 1892.



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7th July, 1893.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, 6th July, 1893.

PIECÉ GOODS.—Although Sterling rates close this week slightly over those advised in last mail's report the interim has witnessed a most disordered money market and the recovery has been made quite recently. Trade in this department has been altogether demoralised and transactions of any description quite the exception, until just at the close the partial restoration has enabled a few lines to be booked. But in the meantime the dealers have not been idle, for they have managed to place a fair proportion of their recent purchases at satisfactory profits, which Importers possibly might have participated in had competition been less keen, for the country can evidently pay up a good deal more than it is generally given credit for when a demand really sets in. This it appears to have done for *TRIESTIN* chiefly, so far, but the other markets will doubtless follow in time, for they are all far short of their usual quota. It has of course been quite impossible to arrange any indent business, not only on account of the firmness of the *MANCHESTER* market, but the impracticability of fixing exchange forward, as the Bankers have refused to draw unless they could get cover, which is not always easily obtainable now. The regular *Euro* auction was omitted this week on account of the low Exchange, but the *Yuen-fong* sale continues as usual, it being rumoured that the necessary provision for remittance was made for some distance ahead before the collapse took place, which, together with the improved prices obtainable now, ought to leave better results than they have been credited with showing for some time past. Privately the sales have mostly been strictly for cash and the exchange, doubtless, was already provided for.

The *MANCHESTER* market is reported quiet but strong. Last month's Export is telegraphed as 14,000,000 yards *Plain Cottons* to *HONGKONG* and *CHINA*, and 4,000 bales *Yarn* to *HONGKONG*, *CHINA* and *JAPAN*, of which the Colony takes 300 bales and this Port 1,200 bales.

The *CHAMBER OF COMMERCE* have not yet issued the Returns of Stocks, but no doubt it will be ready for the next issue of this Report.

Grey Shirtings.—8.4-lbs.—Sales of some 25,000 pieces are reported at firm and advancing prices, as follows:—*Red Church* £1.67½, *Red Twelve Swallow* and *Blue Joss* £1.75, *Red Pagoda* £1.77½, *Gold 3 Bowl* £1.85 and *Black Man and Gun* £1.97½. The common and medium qualities are in most demand, but as high as £2.05 has been offered for a favourite fine make. At auction chops below £1.70 show a further advance, but above that figure they are firm without much change.

Light Weights.—There is nothing reported privately, but judging by the Auction this morning there is a good demand for both 6 and 7-lbs.

Heavy Weights.—The only sales published in these are—*Red Horse* 10-lbs. at £2.10, *Blue 3½ Cart ditto* at £2.13½ and *Shangtsai* 11-lbs. at £2.30, for moderate quantities of each. There does not seem so much disposition to pay up for these and auction prices to-day were only steady at last week's quotations.

12-lbs. 36-inch.—No private sales are mentioned, but the small lots at auction advanced 7 to 9 candareens.

White Shirtings.—Business has been done in these but particulars are withheld of most of the sales—the only ones published being—*Blue Dog* at £2.90 and *Nine Stag* at £3.50. For favorite chops as much as two mace advance, it is said, has been paid privately, but at auction the improvement only amounts to a few candareens.

T-Cloths.—Privately there has been no business reported and at auction prices continue to improve, but irregularly.

Jeans and Drills are both a blank. The small lot of the former at auction advanced 12 cand. for the week.

Sheetings.—*English.*—Further sales are mentioned at gradually improving prices, as follows:—*Cow* £2.55, *Two Flag* £2.60 and *Man's Head* £2.70, market strong.

American.—Just at the close of last mail sales of a further 49,000 pieces came to light, comprising *Owl* and *Appleton Lion* at £3.00 and *Indian Head* at £3.05. The market is strong and the dealers are making handsome profits on their recent transactions.

Cotton Yarn.—*English.* Owing to the short supply the small fresh arrivals meet with ready sale, and 60 bales 30/32s. singles have realised £81½ for *Crown* chop and £85 for *Dog*, while a small lot of *doubles* fetched £95 for the same counts.

Indian.—A very small business has been done, holders generally being very firm and orders from the country are falling off. Prices have advanced two to three taels all round, No. 16s. being in the strongest position. Sales amount to 681 bales, as follows:—

No. 10s., 265 bales—*Sassoon Lion* £48, *Imperial* and *Motilal* £51, *James Greaves* and *Connaught* £52.

No. 16s., 206 bales—*Sassoon Lion* £58, *Lakmidass* £58½, *Kaisar-i-Hind* and *Bombay National* £58½, *Connaught* £59 and *Currimbhoy* £59½.

No. 20s., 120 bales—*Britannia*, *Mule* £56½, *Lakmidass* £57, and *Imperial* £59.

The s.s. *Malwa* brought up 4,308 bales to this market.

Fancy Goods.—The demand is extending to this department now, there being much more enquiry for spot goods at better prices and, it is said, a fair amount has been done, but it is very difficult to obtain particulars. It is said to have embraced both *Dyed* and *Printed* goods and the dealers certainly seem to have found an outlet for a lot of old cargo that has been on storage for a considerable time. The only transactions mentioned are 3,000 pieces *Figured Italians* at \$2.47½, 1,000 pieces 22-inch *Velvets* at \$0.14 for *Yuechong* No. 1 chop and \$0.134 for No. 2, and 1,000 pieces *Indian Head Cotton Plannels* at \$2.824. Deliveries have been rather better.

Woollens.—Although no transactions have been published there has been more enquiry privately for **LONG EGGS** and **LASTINGS**; these have certainly improved at auction, the former at this morning's sale advancing nearly four mace a piece, and the latter a mace and a half. **CLUSTERS** have further improved, all colours participating in the rise, which extends from one to four mace a piece, no doubt helped considerably by the cessation of the *Eico* auction. **SPANISH STRIPES** have advanced about half a candreen at auction, and it has been possible to effect a private sale, 240 pieces *Dog chop* realising *T.0.42½*, for *Scarlet and Gentian*. A sale is reported of 1500 pieces *Suntee House chop RUSSIAN CLOTH* at *T.15.75*, and 90 pieces *Blue Bear MEDIUM CLOTH* at *T.0.24* per yard.

Metals and Miscellaneous.—From Mr. Alex. Bielfeld's Report of 7th July:—My last report was dated 30th ulto. Exchange has since touched 3/2, and although rates are slowly advancing again, the trade in Metals and Miscellaneous goods has remained in a most deplorable state. It seems more difficult in these lines to put up prices than in other articles of trade, generally speaking stocks are certainly very low, but dealers are as anxious as ever to dispose of their goods at a small margin; whether on account of the keen competition or because they do not believe that the present state of things will last, is difficult to say. Comparing Imports during the first 6 months in 1892, with statistics during the same period this year, I find Imports of the following Goods have increased as follows:—SPELTER 36,000 piculs; WHITE METAL 370 piculs, STEEL 2,600 boxes; ZINC SHEETS 1,700 piculs; JAPAN COPPER 1,370 piculs; YELLOW METAL SHEATHING 900 piculs; JAPAN MATCHES 6,000 gross; TOWELS 40,000 dozen; WINDOW GLASS 22,800 boxes; KEROSENE OIL 386,000 cases; GALVANISED IRON 28,000 piculs; MANUFACTURED IRON 13,000 piculs; HORSE SHOES 2,000 piculs. Entries of nearly all other goods are considerably under imports of last year, viz: in round sums those of LEAD 22,000 piculs; NAILROADS 42,000 piculs, of BAR IRON 45,000 piculs, of PIG and ORF 30,000 piculs; of IRON WIRE 12,500 piculs, TIN 15,000 piculs; FOREIGN MATCHES 117,000 gross, LIAMA BRAID 3,600 cases; NEEDLES 355,000 mille, CLOCKS 12,500 pieces; WATCHES 9,000 pieces, less than what was imported during the first 6 months in 1892. OLD IRON with the exception of Horseshoes and a few smaller items shows a considerable falling off too.

the first two months in 1922. I will not expect to find these and a few smaller items shows a considerable saving in the stocks of the following:—
 500 tons. Hoop Iron about 200 tons; New Boiler Plate Cuttings about 300 tons; Bamboo Sheathing about 5,000 boxes; Bamboo Steel, double Horse about 1,500 boxes; Spelter, Hard about 500 boxes; Tin Plates, plain about 2,000 boxes; Tin Plate, decorated about 850 boxes; Straits Tin about 300 slabs; Copper Sheathing about 40 cases; Y M. Sheathing about 230 cases; Japan Copper about 540 piculs; Plints about 2,500 tons; Window Glass about 25,000 cases; Camagong Wood about 1,000 piculs; Old Horse-Shoes about 1,800 tons; Old Boiler Tubes about 300 tons; Old Boiler Plates about 150 tons; Old Wire Rope about 100 tons; Old Railway Spikes about 250 tons; Old Ship Plates about 300 tons; Old Fire Bars about 100 tons; Old Fish Plate about 200 tons; Old Cart Tyres about 500 tons; Old Cobble and Cable Wire about 300 tons; Old Telegraph Wire about 200 tons; Old Scrap Iron about 1,400 tons.

METALS.—There was a spurt in LEAD shortly after departure of last mail, and some 400 tons L.B. were taken up by Foreign buyers at \$3.77½ to \$3.80. Enthoven was done among natives at \$3.67½ to \$3.74. The market closes fairly steady but without much inquiry. Nothing has been moving in NAILROD and BAR IRON. Small parcels of BOILER TUBES and PLATE CUTTINGS spot, have been settled at slightly better rates. In other descriptions there has been nothing doing from first hands.

MISCELLANEOUS GOODS.—Business under this heading is quite at a standstill and even deliveries are most unsatisfactory. The sales reported on the open market which seem to me but arrivals under contract, are:—5 cases Needles, Black Phoenix, No. 6, at £96; 25 cases Needles, No. 1/6, 1/8, Hong Chop, Between, at £18.50; 10 cases Berlin Wool, 12 oz., assorted, at £56; 20 cases Brass Buttons, No. 2/4, at £43, and 3,000 dozen, 14/28, Towels, at 28 cands. Quotations must mostly be considered nominal.

Opium.—Closing quotations :—Malwa, new and old, very firm, cannot quote ; Patna, T410, (new) T416 ; Benares, T405, (new) T407.

EXPORTS.

Silk.—From Messrs. Cromie & Burkill's circular of 6th July:—Our Home advices are meagre and discouraging, prices appear to be more or less nominal, and business generally at a standstill.

RAW SILK.—Apart from some transactions reported on Friday and Saturday last when Exchange was at the lowest point, no business worth recording has been current since, after touching $3\frac{4}{8}$ & $3\frac{4}{8}$ on last mail day. Exchange has gradually advanced to $3\frac{7}{8}$, the official rate this p.m. and as native speculators have continued to support prices, which are considerably over those current last week, the few orders which have come in have proved impracticable.

TSATLEES.—About 400 bales have been booked this week, some of which are probably on speculative account.

HANGCHOW. TSATLEES.—Some 100 bales are reported settled.

TAYSAAMS.—A better demand is noticeable for coarse kinds and over 300 bales have been bought.

YELLOW SILKS.—A fair business is doing at quotations.

Arrivals, as per Customs Returns from 29th June to 5th July are 2,986 bales White and 190 piculs Yellow and Wild Silks.

RE-REELS AND FILATURES.—{ No business

WILD SILKS.—

WASTE SILKS.—Some good Pierced Cocoons have been bought at £89.93 according to 'rendement' and some more Szechuan frissonnets at £274.

PONGEES.—We hear of no transactions.

Quotations.—We give in Taels only. Laying down costs have varied 7% during the week, and any calculations we can give would only mislead.

Purchases include :—**TSATLEES**.—Red Pagoda 3 at £430, Ewo Eagle Kinlun at £430, Gold Stork at £430, Gold Elephant at £412½, Gold Lion at £382½, Beautiful Woman 2 at £415, Mountain 3 at £410, Mountain 4 at £382½, Bird Yuenling at £382½, Large Elephant 4 at £382½, Almond Flower Size May at £360, Almond Flower Sute Lay at £340, Dollar S.S.S. at £350, Dollar S.S.S.S. at £330, Gold Kiling at £330, Sieling Quongfong at £330. **HANGCHOW TSATLEES**.—Lan-hock at £315, Pagoda Ting-how at £315, Blue Lion Tay-how at £302½. **TAYSAM**.—Green Kahing M at £290, Green Kahing Green Almond Flower I at £277½, 2/12 Moss Green Horse I at £335, 9/12 Moss Horse II at £315, 9/12 Moss Single Butterfly at £300, 9/12 Moss Double Butterfly 2 at £265. **CHINGCHU**.—Peach Tree I at £290. **YELLOW SILK**.—Fooyang at £200 a 207½, Mienyang (common) at £200, Wungchow at £185, Szechuan at £170, Kouun at £245.

	1893-94.	1892-93.	1891-92.	1880-91.	1889-90.	1888-89.
Settlements for this mail about	1,000	3,500	1,400	1,500	1,000	800 bales.
" " season inclu-						
ding forward contracts	11,500	12,500	6,000	5,500	14,000	3,500
Stock\$.....	6,000	8,000	9,000	6,500		"
Total Arrivals\$.....	17,500	17,000	14,000	14,500	21,000	10,000
		\$ Including old Silk.				

Memo : White Silk to Europe averages P. 0.80 per bale.

Memo : Yellow Silk to Asia averages P. 1.25 per bale;

	Yellow	White	Wild	America	Europe	England	France, &c.	Total Europe.	America.	India & Egypt.	Coast & Straits.	Grand Total.
				1.00								1.00
	Yellow			1.00								
Export White Silk	829			6,681				7,510	231	380	133	8,254 bales.
" Yellow				11				11	...	367	10	388
" Wild	1			312				313	35	...	6	354
	830			7,004				7,834	206	747	140	8,986
Against in 1892-93	450			5,842				6,292	235	330	198	7,055
" 1891-92	855			3,303				4,158	232	371	116	4,877
Export Waste Silk	939			134				1,073	...	...	14	1,087 piculs
" Cocoons	...			338				338	...	1	519	858

* Many shipments are now sent optional, Marseilles or London.

Also 223 piculs Old Silk Wedding to London.

Also 220 pieces Old BNA. Wadding to London.
" " " " " Continent.

Tea.—From Messrs. Welch, Lewis & Co.'s Circular of 6th July:—Last week's panic in Silver in Europe caused 4 months' sight credits on London to fall from $3/9\frac{1}{2}$ to $3/4\frac{1}{2}$, which rate was touched for a few hours on the 30th ultimo. Rates have since partially recovered and close at $3/6\frac{3}{4}$. Silver was bought at 30d. per ounce in London on 29th ultimo.

The *Moyune* (s.) with first Hankow Teas arrived in London on 4th inst. A few sales have been telegraphed giving satisfactory results, but the small quantity of Tea sold in the first two days is disappointing. Prices reported range from 6d. a lb. for common Tea to 1/11 for the crack Keemun "Seing-na." Ningchows apparently are giving best results.

BLACK TEA.—The market has been rather better supplied with musters, but the only demand of any moment is for common Teas. Nearly the whole of the settlements are between Tls. 12 @ 14 a picul. First and second crop Ningchows are held for prices much above buyers' ideas. Some head chops of Oopack district Teas have been put on the market with no result.

It will be almost impossible to make any approximate estimate of Probable Total Export to London until the middle of August, owing to the uncertainty of probable yield of 2nd and 3rd crops. Natives have already doubled their estimates of the size of the second crop, and present prices for common Tea may draw a larger third than we have seen for some years.

Settlements reported since 22nd ultimo:—

Ningchow.....	897	half-chests at Tls. 18 to 32 a picul.
Keemun	90	" shipped.
Hohow	841	" Tls. 13.50 to 14.50.
Wenchow	474	" shipped.
Oonam	6,159	" Tls. 11.95 to 14.
Oopack	481	" Tls. 12.30 to 14.

8,942 half-chests.

Stock, 15,400 half-chests, against 25,168 half-chests at same time last year.

In Hankow the fall in exchange raised prices 3 to 5 mace a picul, and the lowest quotation for whole-leaf Tea by last advices was Taels $9\frac{1}{4}$ a picul short price.

GREEN TEA.—Pingsueys. Tea-men remained in their hongs whilst exchange was falling, but resumed selling towards the end of last week at a rise of about a tael a picul on previous settlements. Buying is chiefly for shipment to America, and the market closes steady.

Local packed Teas have been taken readily by English and American buyers at prices about 15% over last year's.

COUNTRY TEAS.—All districts are now represented. Fychows are about equal to last season's in water, but are rougher than ever in leaf and unattractive in color. English buyers have competed for them at Tls. 19 @ $19\frac{1}{2}$ a picul, which we consider very full prices quality considered. The Soeyoans are perhaps a little superior to last season's crop, but the prices are much too high for safety, and the proportions of these chops are very poor. One Tienkai has been shown and sold at Tls. $26\frac{1}{2}$ a picul. Moyunes are coming to hand slowly and are soon disposed of: it is too early to form an opinion of the quality of the crop as a whole.

Nothing new has come to light about probable size of Green Tea crop.

In Hysons for shipment to Bombay a strong demand continues for finest qualities, and some late purchases show a rise of 10 to 15% on opening rates. Imperials are scarce, most of the leaf having been put into the Hysons.

Settlements reported since 22nd instant, are:—

Pingsuey.....	14,155	half-chests @ Tls. 14 to 32 a picul.
Local packed.....	1,472	" " " 19 to $19\frac{1}{2}$ " Fine lines, Tls. $26\frac{1}{2}$ to 29.
Fychows & Soeyoans...	1,623	" " " 19 to 21 " " 29 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 32.
Tienkais	185	" " " $26\frac{1}{2}$.
Moyunes	690	" " " $23\frac{3}{4}$ to $25\frac{1}{2}$., Fine lines, Tls. 42 to 44.

18,125 half-chests.

Total settlements to date.....	52,347	half-chests against	50,506	half-chests to same time last year.
Stock	22,079	" " "	11,044	" " "

Total arrivals to date	74,426	half-chests.	61,550	half-chests.
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EXPORT OF TEA TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	Black.	Green.
From com. of season to 22nd June, 1893	10,762,646 lbs.	27,064 lbs.
June 24th, <i>Saghali</i> (s.) for London	33,305 "	—
" 24th, <i>Aden</i> (s.) do.	309,863 "	—
" 26th, <i>Benvenue</i> (s.) do.	95,308 "	32,322 "
" 28th, <i>Palamed</i> (s.) do.	489,163 "	—
" 30th, <i>Rosetta</i> (s.) do.	626 "	5,610 "
Total to date 1893.....	11,690,911 lbs.	64,996 lbs.
" " 1892.....	17,113,695 "	413,065 "
Decrease present season	5,422,784 lbs.	349,069 lbs.

The cargoes of the *Oopack* and *Telemachus* are not yet declared.

EXPORT OF TEA TO THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	Black.	Green.
From com. of season to 22nd June, 1893	1,704,913 lbs.	621,551 lbs.
June 21st, <i>Pingsuey</i> (s.) for New York	113,829 "	401,413 "
" 21st, <i>Victoria</i> (s.) for Tacoma	54,409 "	225,619 "
" 29th, <i>Glamorganshire</i> (s.) for New York	324,509 "	330,614 "
" 29th, <i>Holyrood</i> (s.) for New York	467,230 "	663,870 "
" 17th, <i>Yokohama Maru</i> (s.) for Chicago	—	22,627 "
Total to date 1893	2,664,890 lbs.	2,265,794 lbs.
" " 1892	3,168,955 "	1,070,995 "
Decrease present season...	504,065 lbs.	—
Increase " "	—	1,194,799 lbs.

EXPORT OF GREEN TEA TO BOMBAY.

From com. of season to 22nd June, 1893	66,051 lbs.
June 30th, <i>Rosetta</i>	227,330 "
Total to date 1893	293,381 lbs.
" " 1892	178,498 "
Increase present season...	114,883 lbs.

EXPORT OF BLACK TEA TO RUSSIA DIRECT FROM HANKOW.

May 26th, <i>Saratoff</i> (s.) for Odessa	3,852,700 lbs.
June 1st, <i>Moskwa</i> (s.) do.	2,738,988 "
" 10th, <i>Russia</i> (s.) do.	2,403,112 "
" 19th, <i>Jaroslav</i> (s.) do.	3,620,871 "
" 21st, <i>Glenfalloch</i> (s.) do.	2,684,372 "
" 27th, <i>Kostroma</i> (s.) do.	2,042,843 "
Total to date 1893	17,342,886 lbs.
" " 1892	15,423,703 "
Increase present season...	1,919,183 lbs.

FREIGHTS.—For London—Rates by Steamer £2.10 a ton of 40 c. ft. *Carmarthenshire* (s.) and *Palinurus* (s), loading. *Kintuck* (s.) expected.

For New York—Rates *via* Suez Canal £2 a ton of 40 c. ft. *Benlomond* (s.) on the berth. Rates per Mail steamer and Overland 1½ cents gold per lb. gross. A sailing vessel has been chartered for New York.

Tea.—From Hankow Tea Statistics of 3rd July, 1893:—Business reported since the 19th ulto., is as under:—

	1893.	1892.	
Settlements	36,967 ½-chests.	45,568 ½-chests.	
Shipments to Shanghai on Native account	10,464 "	372 "	
Consisting of the following Teas, cost in London being calculated at 3/8 per tael exchange, and 55/- per ton freight, direct hence:—			
Ningchows	9,526 half-chests	£10.00 a 20.00 per picul = 0/6½ a 0/9½	per lb.
Oopacks	8,051 "	8.75 a 15.00 "	0/5½ a 0/8 "
Oonams	10,493 "	8.90 a 12.50 "	0/5½ a 0/7 "
Oanfas	7,413 "	9.20 a 14.25 "	0/6 a 0/7½ "
Seang-tams	1,484 "	8.35 a 10.00 "	0/5½ a 0/6½ "

The following are Statistics at date compared with the corresponding circular last season, viz.

	1893.	1892.		1893.	1892.
HANKOW TEA.	half-chests.		KIUKIANG TEA.	half-chests.	
Settlements	466,993	481,860	Settlements	238,715	210,058
Shipments to Shanghai on Native account	8,238	372	Shipments to Shanghai on Native account	2,226	—
Stock	76,064	51,550	Stock	8,271	34,925
Arrivals	551,295	533,782	Arrivals	249,212	244,983

The entire business to date as compared with the corresponding circular last year is as under:—

	1893.	1892.
For London and America	226,467 half-chests.	305,000 half-chests.
" Russia	479,241 "	386,918 "
	705,708 "	691,918 "

Comparative Quotations are as under:—

	1893.	1892.	
1st crops.			
Ningchows	£10.00 a 17.75	7.85 a 20.00	per picul.
Oopacks	9.00 a 15.00	6.90 a 12.75	"
Oonams	9.25 a 12.50	7.50 a 11.40	"
Oanfas	9.75 a 14.25	9.00 a 16.50	"
Seang-tams	8.35	7.00 a 7.40	"
2nd crops.			
Ningchows	£11.75 a 20.00	12.10 a 18.50	per picul.
Oopacks	8.75 a 9.75	7.35 a 9.75	"
Oonams	8.90 a 10.75	8.30 a 9.40	"
Oanfas	9.20 a 12.00	9.60 a 10.80	"
Seang-tams	8.60 a 10.00	none.	"

The export to date as per Customs Returns stands thus:—

	Re-exports.
Season 1893 x 94	13,464,637 lbs.
" 1892 x 93	13,563,020 "
" 1891 x 92	18,064,100 "
" 1890 x 91	18,096,000 "

The following are the departures for London:—

As per last Report in 5 steamers	8,918,966 lbs.
--	----------------

Against in 3 steamers last year

9,948,317 "

Departures for Odessa:—

As per last Report in 3 steamers	8,994,800 lbs.
20th June, <i>Yaroslavl</i>	3,620,871 „
23rd June, <i>Glenfallock</i>	2,684,371 „
27th June, <i>Kostroma</i>	2,119,115 „
	17,419,157 „
Against in 6 steamers last year	15,423,703 „

FREIGHTS.—For London: Through rate *via* Shanghai at 55s. per ton. For Odessa: *Orel* 40s. per ton.
 EXCHANGE.—The comparative quotations are as under:—

	1893.	1892.
On London, Bank Bills on demand	3/7½	4/1½
Credits, 4 months' sight	3/8	4/2½
Do. 6 do.	3/8½	4/2½
On Shanghai, Bank Bills on demand	2½ %	2½ %
3 days' sight private	3½ %	3½ %
On Hongkong, Bank Bills on demand	29½ %	29 %

† The Tea Statistics in this Report are made up to the evening of the 2nd instant.

Freight.—From Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s Report of 7th July:—Since writing on 23rd ulto. our freight market to New York has hardened, and an advance of 10s. per ton has to be noted for both Tea and General Cargo. For London.—Demand for tonnage still remains scarce and not much cargo has been going forward as far as this port is concerned. Coastwise.—We have no improvement to advise and prospects of more encouraging news from the outports seem as distant as ever. Nagasaki to Shanghai.—Owing to the scarcity of Coal there is very little enquiry for tonnage, and the settlement noted at foot is the only charter we have heard of.

For London, *via* Suez Canal:—The *Telemachus* sailed 5th inst., leaving the berth to the *Carmarthenshire* which vessel cleared yesterday. The *Kintuck* now in Japan is circulated to follow.

For New York:—The *Bentomond* arrived from Japan 3rd inst., and is now ready to receive cargo. She will be despatched 12th inst., and be followed by the *Teucer*. *Via* the Cape.—The *Sintram* is the only vessel on the berth and is progressing favourably with her loading.

Departures for London:—s.s. *Aden* *via* Amoy 25th June, s.s. *Benvenue* *via* Foochow 29th, *Palamed* *via* Foochow 29th s.s. *Glenorchy* *via* Foochow 1st inst., *Telemachus* *via* Foochow 5th idem.

Departures for New York:—s.s. *Pingsuey* *via* Amoy 22nd ulto., s.s. *Holyrood* *via* Amoy and s.s. *Glamorganshire* 30th idem.

Shanghai to London, P. & O. S. N. Co., O. S. S. Co., Ben Line, C. M. S. N. Co., and Glen Line 45s. per ton for general cargo, 50s. Tea, through from Hankow 55s. Shanghai to New York 40s., Tea and general cargo.

Quotations are:—Newchwang to Swatow 14 cents per picul, Newchwang to Amoy 15 cents per picul, Nagasaki to Shanghai 75 a 80 cents per ton.

Settlement during the fortnight:—*Hever*, German steamer, 388 tons register, Nagasaki to Shanghai, \$500 in full.

Disengaged vessels in port:—*Freeman* American barque, 1,138 tons register. *G. R. Scholfeld*, American ship, 1,644 tons register.

Coal.—From Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s Report of 7th July:—JAPAN.—Our market remains much in the same state as when we last wrote, the stocks of all kinds are numerous and seem steadily increasing. Coals from Moji district are being readily offered at prices anything but profitable, and few transactions if any have transpired. CARDIFF remains weak with no business. AUSTRALIAN.—Wollongong:—The demand has apparently been satisfied as offers are very scarce; notwithstanding the serious fall in exchange the best price that can be got is £6.55 per ton, but holders remain firm. The s.s. *Catterthun* arrived on the 3rd instant with 1,400 tons, this cargo remains unsold. AMERICAN ANTHRACITE.—A small lot has been placed at £10.00 per ton ex ship.

Cardiff, ex godown	Tls. 9.50 per ton.	Japan, Miike Small ex godown	Tls. 3.25	p. ton.
American Anthracite, ex godown	10.00 „	„ Imabuko, ex godown	2.00 „	„
Sydney, Wollongong, ex sailing ship	6.40 „	„ Keelung Lump, ex godown	3.50 „	„
„ steamer cargo ex godown	6.40 „	„ Hayama, ex godown	3.25 „	„
Newcastle, N.S.W., ex godown	6.50 „	„ Chikuzen, ex godown	3.00 „	„
Japan, Takasima Lump, ex godown	5.25 „	„ Meniji, ex godown	3.00 „	„
„ „ Small	3.25 „	„ Ohnoura	3.00 „	„
„ „ Miike Lump	4.50 „	„ Namazuta Lump, ex godown	4.00 „	„
		„ „ Dust	3.00 „	„

Arrivals during the fortnight have been:—Miike small, 2,282 tons; Mixed Japan, 952 tons; Takasima mixed, 1,459 tons; Ohnoura, 762 tons; Moji, 700 tons; Wollongong, 1,400 tons; Takasima dust, 1,476 tons; total, 9,031 tons.

Kerosene Oil.—During the first part of the period under review some of our largest operators entered the field and began buying at first quietly with the result that prices gradually hardened, large quantities eventually changing hands at prices ranging from £1.14 to £1.18 per case with Batoum from £1.09 to £1.14 per case, one month's prompt. There have been no arrivals. Stocks now in godown are 238,721 cases American and 135,958 cases Russian. Deliveries during the fortnight have been 77,677 cases American and 19,636 cases Russian.

Since writing the above the s.v. *Creedmoor* has arrived with 55,000 cases Devoes', which we have not included in stocks.

Devoe's	£1.15 per case, one month's prompt, nominal.
Russian	£1.10 „ „ „ „

Exchange.—On London.—Telegraphic Transfers, 3s. 5½d. a 3s. 5½d. Banks Bills, demand, 3s. 5½d. a 3s. 6d. Bank Bills, 4 months' sight, 3s. 6½d. a 3s. 6½d. First-Class Credits to Banks, 4 months' sight, 3s. 7d.; 6 months' sight, 3s. 7½d. Private and Documentary, 4 months' sight 3s. 7½d.; 6 months' sight, 3s. 7½d. On France.—Bank Bills, demand, Fcs. 4.43; Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight 4.53, 6 months' sight, 4.56. On Germany.—Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, Marks 3.65. On New York.—Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, 113. On Hongkong.—Telegraphic Transfers, 72 per cent. discount; Private Bills, 3 days' sight, 71½. On Yokohama.—Telegraphic Transfers 72½. Private Bills, 15 days' sight, 71½. On Bombay and Calcutta.—Telegraphic Transfers, Rs. 264. Bank Bills, demand, Rs. 264. Bullion—Gold Bars, Peking, 98 touch, £272.50. Silver Bars, £111.00. Mexican dollars, £73.75. Carolus dollars, £90.00. Copper Cash, 1,380. Chinese Interest, cand. 7. Bar Silver in London, per oz. 34½.

DAILY QUOTATIONS.

(From Messrs. Morris & Fergusson's Circular.)

July.	Bar Silver per oz in L'don.	ON LONDON.								FRANCE.		GER-	N. Y.K.	HONG-	YOKO-	INDIA.
		T/Transfers.		Bank 4 m/s.		Credits 4 m/s.		Docty. 4 m/s.		Francs 4 m/s. and 6 do.		4 m/s. Priv.	Docty 4 m/s.	KONG.	T/T	Rupees. T/T
		Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.					
3rd	33½	3.4½	3.5½	3.5½	3.6½	3.5½	3.7	3.6	3.7	4.40/4.43	4.51/4.54	3.47	114	72	72½	254
4th	34	3.5½	3.5½	3.6½	3.6½	3.6½	3.7	3.6½	3.7½	4.47/4.50	4.53/4.56	3.54	112	72	72½	264
5th	34½	3.5½	3.6	3.6½	3.6½	3.7	3.7½	3.7	3.7½	4.50/4.53	4.55/4.58	3.56	111½	72	72½	264
6th	34½/35	3.5½	3.6	3.6½	3.6½	3.7	3.7½	3.7½	3.7½	4.50/4.53	4.55/4.58	3.56	111½	72	72½	264
7th	34½/2	3.5½	3.5½	3.6½	3.6½	3.6½	3.7	3.6½	3.7½	4.49/4.52	4.53/4.56	3.56	113	72	72½	264

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cotton and Woollen Piece Goods for the week ending 5th July, 1893, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 149 to 154, both numbers inclusive.

GOODS.	RE-EXPORTS AND THEIR DESTINATIONS.													
	Ningpo.	Wenchow.	Chinkiang.	Wuhu.	Kinkiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Neuchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Hioogo.	Yokohama.
Grey Shirtings †	8,317	2,020	16,780	6,610	2,493	21,137	13,900	34,930	2,520	75	100			2,750
T-Cloths, 32-in.	1,415	1,025	2,315	795	440	2,410	2,160	8,695	1,735	1,595	1,000			75
" Indian, 32 & 36-in.							1,770	8,170			350			2,300
" 36-in.	795				210		80	120						2,000
White Shirtings	375	150	1,100	300	450	8,661	2,346	13,307	760	30			100	2,500
Drills, English & Dutch			980			60	1,360	225	2,830	30	150			270
" American			450			900	1,125	1,800	5,595					150
Jeans, English & Dutch							100	460	100					260
" American							40							100
Sheetings, English	20		1,210	1,620	810	3,770	2,060	9,340	2,720					420
" Indian					20		100	1,320	2,010					200
" American	100		40				6,410	5,635	3,735					240
Dyed Shirtings			1,515			50	40	850						100
Bro. & Sp. S'tings, D. & W.			50		50	40	40	116						150
Chintzes			230	60		59	54							300
Printed T-Cloths			640	299	622	1,281	687	3,384						450
Printed Twills						288	120	180		240				240
Turkey Red Shirtings	55	450	441	705	445	685	503	1,621	210	50				250
Velvets			30		60	114		60	62					40
Velveteens						24								30
Handkerchiefs			400			290			200				400	3,200
Muslins	320		100	100		500	1,000	10,818					100	300
Lenos & Balzarines								50						200
Cotton Yarn, Indian	15		255	105	981	789	2,610	2,568	6,982	6	1,050		300	60
" English			3	3	27	36								
Spanish Stripes, Woollen			30		90	72	6							24
" Cotton			48	40		120	48							50
Medium & Broad Cloths			6			12	10	10						40
Camlets			60	30	60	70	80	20	10					120
Long Ells					100	140	25							80
Lastings	20				40	210	130	310	150				30	180
Italian Cloth	27		30			60	30		660				149	140
Cotton Lastings & Italians			480	220		320	835	1,213	745					500
Plain & Figured Orleans							60							180
Cotton Flannels														200
Lead in Pigs	101	15					192	126	254	248				
Iron—Nail Rod	84		806	105	101	214	928		420					
Kerosine Oil, American			1,000		450	2,262	9,500		1,500					
" Russian								1,000						

GOODS.	TOTAL DELIVERIES.			TOTAL IMPORTS.			STOCKS AT DATE ARE BASED ON THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE RETURNS, ON 31ST DEC., 1892.	
	As above.	For the Year from 1st Jan., 1893.	Against last year to same term.	For the week.	For the year from 1st Jan. 1893.	Against last year to same term.	* At date Estimated.	Against 6th July, 1892
Grey Shirtings †	124,132	2,647,416	3 622,071	50,937	2,476,374	3,776,621	1,187,843	1,488,674
T-Cloths, 32-in.	25,960	456,667	749,297	9,900	463,380		206,608	289,944
" Indian, 32 & 36-in.	10,490	126,426		9,200	92,490	825,348	66,424	
" 36-in.	3,325	92,460	164,655	3,956	113,765	196,069	75,161	95,819
White Shirtings	31,129	813,612	1,131,744	13,222	794,493	1,089,614	342,436	590,068
Drills, English & Dutch	5,905	120,284	104,525	4,090	186,614	103,774	85,975	89,365
" American	10,020	136,810	214,829	27,900	188,915	368,020	67,180	249,126
Jeans, English & Dutch	1,130	68,836	87,177	3,890	58,788	88,409	22,792	67,750
" American	140	13,530	7,830		18,000	8,000	10,470	170
Sheetings, English	21,970	375,099	500,899	1,720	339,302		49,776	228,174
" Indian	3,650	37,199		5,080	26,040	485,158		
" American	16,160	364,875	712,959		423,765	816,930	223,815	419,966
Dyed Shirtings	2,555	119,755	155,364	5,590	97,448	135,772	4,545	11,063
Bro. & Sp. S'tings, D. & W.	446	20,538	20,450	749	31,301	16,014	21,320	6,015
Chintzes	703	30,592	32,735		39,532	44,083	27,824	32,680
Printed T-Cloths	7,363	294,162	321,443	5,397	298,425	329,413	215,733	194,030
Printed Twills	1,068	55,417	69,619	889	80,381	99,268	101,632	57,218
Turkey Red Shirtings	5,415	173,482	280,307	400	66,787	235,128	150,138	342,352
Velvets	366	11,512	14,276	3,448	30,018	23,282	26,165	11,826
Velveteens	54	4,036	7,446	548	6,047	6,796	3,885	2,664
Handkerchiefs	4,490	198,508	231,509	13,176	240,266	269,770	210,887	175,000
Muslins	13,238	153,956	147,807	3,563	202,154	184,133	114,107	92,254
Lenos & Balzarines	4,906	67,255	80,313		67,073	78,505	23,320	35,927
Cotton Yarn, Indian	15,712	257,792	405,556	13,167	276,175	364,862	74,621	36,084
" English	69	8,144	20,272	573	4,330	11,044		9,551
Spanish Stripes, Woollen	282	16,610	17,491	586	27,402	28,804	15,952	14,945
" Cotton	306	9,346	12,488	672	16,355	18,165	9,656	10,322
Medium and Broad Cloths	78	8,514	10,132	858	8,951	21,033	17,567	21,567
Camlets	450	30,031	33,603	270	37,600	28,619	14,639	12,406
Long Ells	345	27,144	29,279	700	71,425	35,580	23,244	17,461
Lastings	1,110	52,679	61,563	2,833	98,766	69,293	60,472	23,709
Italian Cloth	1,096	30,425	34,051	4,353	47,062	35,489	25,201	24,841
Cotton Lastings & Italians	4,463	254,139	310,835	15,423	457,449	358,723	394,474	230,658
Plain & Figured Orleans	240	3,079	12,861	392	2,701	7,737	4,329	4,046
Cotton Flannels	200	14,608	12,011	16,000	40,464	7,232	47,906	34,130
Lead in Pigs	1,010	63,210	51,117		55,495	83,848	12,827	45,527
Iron—Nail Rod	2,658	86,144	90,098	4,200	83,172	103,330	69,667	165,989
Kerosine Oil, American	14,712	1,033,016	529,406	70,000	967,008	491,005	238,721	629,536
" Russian	1,000	181,430	186,600	105,519	403,634	113,876	135,958	89,122

† Including English and Dutch 12-lbs.

* Exclusive of undeclared Import Cargoes per *Vindobona, Palamed, Teucer, Empress of India, Malacca, Ghazee, Kintuck, Telemachus, Ouz, Palimurus, Glenogle and Malua.*Import Cargoes declared during interval: *Glenesk, Dardanus, Aden, Neckar, Calédonien and Peninsular.*

‡ From the daily returns from the Wharves.

SHARES.

SHANGHAI, 7th July, 1893.

BANKS.—*Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.*—No business is reported in this stock. Shares are offering at 102 per cent. premium. *Bank of China.*—Three or four lots of shares have changed hands at \$50. They are wanted at the same rate, and are held for \$0.50.

DOCKS.—Business has been done in *Boyd and Co.* shares at £137½, in *S. C. Farnham & Co.* shares at £107, and *Hongkong & Whampoa Dock* shares were placed from Hongkong at 70 per cent. premium.

MARINE INSURANCE.—*China Traders'* shares changed hands at \$52 and \$52½, and *Cantons* at \$113.

FIRE INSURANCE.—Business this week has been confined to *Chinas* at \$82½. *Straits* shares are wanted at \$16½, but are held for \$17.

MISCELLANEOUS.—The *Shanghai Gas Co.* paid an interim dividend of 6 per cent. yesterday. We now quote the rate £215. Business was done in *Shanghai Waterworks* shares at £160, *Perak Sugar Cultivation* shares at £23½, *Shanghai Land Investment* shares at £25½, and *Hongkong Land Investment* shares at \$54 and \$53.

SHARES.	No.	Value.	Paid up.	POSITION PER LAST REPORT.			LAST DIVIDEND, &c.		CASH QUOTATION.		
				Reserve.	At Working Account.	Date.	To Share-holders.	When paid or due.	Closing.	Taels.	
<i>Banks.</i>											
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank. Co.	80,000	\$125	\$125	\$3,600,000.00	\$71,171.30	31 Dec 92	*£1	1 Mar 93	102% pm.	184.32	
Bank of China, Jap. & Straits, Ltd.	199,875	£10	£1	.....	£2,002.13	10 31 Dec 92	+0.49	4 Mar 92	\$0.50	0.36	
Do. Founders	1,250	£1	£1	.....	.....	.....	+£35.23	14 Feb 91	£20.0.0	106.96	
National Bank of China, Ltd.	19,970	£10	£8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Do. Founders	29,955	£10	£8	.....	\$20,572.82	31 Dec 92	None.	.....	\$25.00	18.25	
Do. Founders	750	£1	£1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$130.00	94.90	
<i>Shipping.</i>											
Shanghai Tug Boat Co., Ltd.	1,000	£100	£100	£3,000	£171.12	31 Dec 92	*£6	5 April 93	.....	90.00	
Indo-China Steam Nav. Co.	49,589	£10	£10	£40,000.00	£2,437.11	31 Dec 92	+2½%	7 July 92	.....	21.00	
Shanghai Shipping Co.	150	£150	£150	.....	£1,050.34	31 Dec 92	*20%	1 Mar 92	.....	150.00	
Ch. Mutual S.N. Co. pref. share	20,000	£10	£10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	£6.10.0	33.91	
Do. ord. do.	10,000	£10	£5	£114,000.00	£1,296.19	31 Dec 92	*3%	27 Mar 93	£1.0.0	5.26	
Do. do. do.	10,000	£10	£3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	£0.10.0	2.61	
Taku Tug and Lighter Co., Ltd.	8,600	T. £50	T. £50	£73,449.16	£5,182.45	31 Dec 92	*5%	14 Mar 93	T. £55.00	57.20	
H'kong, U'ton & M'cao S.B. Co.	80,000	\$20	\$20	\$619,000.00	\$18,714.87	31 Dec 92	*5%	30 Jan 93	\$28.00	20.44	
<i>Docks.</i>											
Shanghai Dock Co.	440	£500	£500	£18,500.00	£67.92	31 Dec 92	*£12	6 Jan 93	.....	420.00	
Byrd & Co., Ltd., Founders	200	£100	£100	£41,000.00	£5,302.57	30 April 92	+£12	28 June 92	.....	300.00	
Byrd & Co., Ltd.	7,800	£100	£100	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	137.50	
S. C. Farnham & Co., Ltd.	7,500	£100	£100	.....	.....	.....	First year.	.....	.....	107.00	
<i>Insurance (Marine.)</i>											
China Traders' Ins. Co., Ltd.	24,000	\$83.33	\$25	\$750,000.00	\$237,185.68	30 April 92	+£4.50	19 Sept 92	\$52.50	38.32	
North-China Ins. Co., Ltd.	5,000	£200	£25	£200,000.00	£159,969.32	31 Dec 92	+£26.67	22 April 93	.....	125.00	
Union In. Society of Canton, Ltd.	10,000	\$250	\$25	\$842,000.00	\$422,392.37	30 June 92	+£7	12 Oct 92	\$83.00	60.59	
Yangtze Insurance Ass'n, Ltd.	6,948	\$100	\$100	\$280,000.00	\$133,627.84	31 Dec 92	+£86	27 April 93	.....	70.00	
Canton Insurance Office	10,000	\$250	\$50	\$730,000.00	\$73,349.32	31 Dec 91	\$5	13 Jan 93	\$113.00	82.49	
Straits Insurance Co., Ltd.	30,000	\$100	\$20	\$64,017.87	\$9,487.16	.....	+5%	15 July 92	\$11.75	8.58	
<i>Insurance (Fire.)</i>											
Hongkong Fire Ins. Co., Ltd.	8,000	\$250	\$50	\$1,060,000	\$301,495.70	31 Dec 92	+£17.50	16 Mar 93	\$220.00	160.60	
China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.	20,000	\$100	\$20	\$825,000.00	\$183,787.54	31 Dec 92	+£7	7 Mar 93	\$82.50	60.22	
Straits Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.	20,000	\$100	\$20	\$127,500.00	\$22,845.03	31 Dec 92	+5%	29 Mar 93	\$16.50	12.05	
<i>Wharves.</i>											
Shanghai & H'kew Wharf Co.	2,867	£100	£100	£94,089.75	£4,302.19	31 Dec 92	*£11.00	9 Mar 93	.....	272.50	
Birt's Wharf H. C. & W. C. Co.	2,100	£50	£50	£10,000.00	.....	31 Oct 92	*3½%	28 Nov 92	.....	37.00	
H'kong & K'loon Wh. & G. Co., Ltd.	20,000	\$50	\$50	.....	\$14,409.37	31 Dec 92	*\$1.50	9 Feb 93	\$41.00	29.93	
<i>Mining.</i>											
Sheridan Con. M. & M. Co., Ltd.	20,000	£100	£100	.....	£47,714.08	31 Dec 92	None.	.....	\$5.00	3.65	
Smuggler Union Mining Co.	50,000	G. \$100	G. \$100	.....	£48,965.72	1 April 92	.....	.....	.....	nominal	
Selama Tin Mining Co., Ltd.	115,000	\$1	\$0.50	.....	£89,449.49	30 June 91	None.	.....	\$0.15	0.11	
Do. do.	25,000	\$1	\$1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$0.30	0.22	
<i>Cargo Boats.</i>											
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.	1,000	£200	£200	£40,397.90	£2,643.16	31 Dec 92	*7%	14 Mar 93	.....	207.50	
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.	1,000	£100	£100	£11,000.00	£1,930.32	31 Dec 92	*5%	2 Mar 93	.....	75.00	
<i>Miscellaneous.</i>											
Shanghai Gas Co.	2,000	£100	£100	£100,000.00	£12,644.41	31 Dec 92	*6%	6 July 93	.....	215.00	
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.	7,200	£20	£20	£25,723.08	£218.45	31 Dec 92	*5½%	25 Mar 93	.....	160.00	
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co. Ltd.	5,000	£50	£50	.....	£7,810.42	30 June 92	None.	.....	.....	23.25	
Hall & Holtz Co-op'tive Co., Ltd.	6,000	£50	£50	.....	\$4,692.42	29 Feb 92	+£2	15 May 90	.....	6.00	
Japan Brewery Co., Ltd.	1,500	\$100	\$100	\$10,345.85	\$3,061.51	31 Dec 91	*\$5	10 Mar 92	\$105.00	76.65	
New Shanghai Electric Co., Ltd.	477	£100	£100	.....	£775.78	31 Dec 92	+£7	29 Mar 92	.....	100.00	
Sh. Land Investment Co., Ltd.	20,000	£50	£30	£28,263.17	£301.51	31 Dec 92	*3½%	2 Mar 93	.....	25.50	
J. Llewellyn & Co., Ltd.	1,200	\$100	\$100	.....	\$254.06	31 Dec 92	+7%	25 May 93	\$70.00	51.10	
Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ltd.	1,800	£50	£50	£1,903.86	£1,855.54	31 Dec 92	*£2	25 April 92	.....	44.00	
Major Brothers, Ltd.	6,000	£50	£50	.....	£623.53	14 Oct 92	*£1.50	9 Dec 92	.....	39.50	
Y'hama Engin. & Iron Work, Ltd.	1,300	\$100	\$100	\$10,225.99	.....	30 Nov 91	*3%	30 Nov 91	\$70.00	51.10	
Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco Co.	1,290	\$100	\$100	\$7,311.93	.....	31 Dec 92	+£13.40	5 June 93	.....	125.00	
Shanghai-Lankat Tob. Co., Ltd.	1,590	£100	£80	.....	.....	.....	First year.	.....	.....	50.00	
Do. Founders	10	£100	£70	.....	.....	.....	First year.	.....	.....	525.00	
L'Hôtel des Colonies, Ltd.	500	£50	£50	.....	.....	31 Dec 92	+7%	25 April 92	.....	13.50	
Shanghai Ice Co.	360	£100	£100	£250.00	.....	31 Dec 92	+7%	25 April 93	.....	8.00	
A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd.	50,000	\$10	\$10	\$225,000.00	\$7,704.85	31 Dec 92	+9½%	10 Jan 93	.....	110.50	
							*3%	23 May 92	\$11.25	8.21	

LOANS.	Amount of Loan.	Outstanding.	Nominal Value.	Rate of Interest.	When Payable.	Closing.
Shanghai Mun. Debentures—Issue 1883	£45,000.00	£25,000.00	£100	7%	Dec. & June	nominal.
Do. 1884	£15,000.00	£15,000.00	£100	7%	Do.	.....
Do. 1885	£30,000.00	£30,000.00	£100	7%	Do.	.....
Do. 1888	£70,000.00	£70,000.00	£100	6%	Do.	.....
Do. 1890	£20,000.00	£20,000.00	£100	6%	Do.	.....
Do. 1891	£20,000.00	£20,000.00	£100	5½%	Do.	£108.00
China Merchants' S.N. Co. Debentures.	£300,000	£85,000	£100	7%	Quarterly	£102 (a) nominal.
Lycum Theatre Debentures	£17,000.00	£17,000.00	£25	4%	2 Sept. '92	£12.00
Chinese Imp. Government Loan 1886 E	S. £767,200.00	£716,800.00	£250	7%	Mar. & Sept.	(a) £280.00
Shanghai Land Invest. Co. Debentures.	£250,000.00	£250,000.00	£100	6%	May & Nov.	(a) £100.00
Do. Do.	£105,200.00	£105,200.00	£100	5½%	June & Dec.	£100.00

* For half year. † For quarter year. ‡ For year. § A deficit. \$ A dividend of 6% for the half year to 31st Dec., 1892, was paid on 12th Jan., 1893. (a) Exclusive of accrued interest.

J. P. BISSET & Co.